

Arafat deputy: We're determined to root out terror

THE Palestinian Authority "is determined to root out every bit of infrastructure" and "demolish the vicious organizations" of the terrorists who stage attacks against Israelis.

them. President Arafat said you cannot trust those people, and that they betrayed us. Arafat has been charged by Israel and others with failing to make a strategic choice between its agreement with Israel and its desire to remain on good terms with Islamic militants.

decision-makers" in Izzadin Kassam arrested by the PA in Gaza during the last few days: Yusuf Abu Hayna, Muhammad Khawaja, Haidar Abbas, Awad Saalimi, and Atef Hamdan.

be extradited to Israel, but will be tried by PA special military courts, just as Mohammed Mustafa Abu Wardah was convicted and sentenced yesterday to life imprisonment.

controlled by the PA, such as Ramallah. However, Abbas warned against Israel taking any unilateral action in A areas, saying this would have dire consequences for peace.

religious leaders in Gaza on Tuesday about issuing a fatwa (religious edict) stressing that terror attacks against civilians are against Islam.



Hundreds of Palestinians demonstrate against violence in Nablus yesterday. The sign in front reads 'No to violence, no to terror.'

DAVID MAKOVSKY

Security forces uncover terror cell ring leaders

Responsible for three of latest suicide bombs

ARIEH O'SULLIVAN and JON IMMANUEL

THE General Security Service and the police cracked the Hamas terror cell responsible for three of the past four suicide bombings, security officials said yesterday.

The cell was organized in Ramallah by a fugitive from the Gaza Strip, who arrived in the Palestinian-ruled city last month. He swiftly succeeded in recruiting two students in the UN-run Teachers' Training College and ordered them to seek suicide bombers.

The Gaza is still at large, but both of the students were apprehended by the Palestinian Police in cooperation with Israel, said a joint statement by the Israel Police and the IDF Spokesman.

One of the two students, Mohammed Abu Wardah, 20, was sentenced to life at hard labor Tuesday night by a Jericho court. The other was identified as Abed Salimeh Sheik Eid, 26, of Rafiah. Both are Hamas activists.

The trial was held so quickly that it appeared designed to head off an inevitable Israeli request for his extradition.

Abu Wardah, a cousin of the first Jerusalem bus bomber, was captured by Palestinian Preventive Security within hours of the second Jerusalem bus bombing.

Interviewed yesterday on Palestinian radio and later on Channel 1, he admitted that the attacks were "a mistake."

"We did not make a correct assessment of the situation... I'm fully convinced that, as a result of these operations, we have negative consequences," he told the

radio. He said he was ordered to make the operations by a man called "Abu Ahmed," whom he believes is from Khan Yunis. He said he had met him in Ramallah, then had no further contact with him.

"There were moments when I did not have faith in it... I thought about it but, in the final analysis, any man can make a mistake," he said. "I acted on the orders of the military wing and prepared men for them."

He said he recruited the suicide bombers, first "by sounding them out, then afterward I received their agreement in principle. Then I worked with them directly and finally they agreed."

Preparations for the operation took four weeks, he said. He had been asked to be a suicide bomber himself but "for various reasons I refused."

"I made a mistake and I call on the military wing not to repeat operations like these and to give the Palestinian Authority and the Israeli government time to restore the situation to what it was before, to create stability and security," he said.

He said the motive of the military wing was "to create an about-face in the political front. They thought the military actions would work in favor of the Likud and against the Left in the elections. They wanted to blow up the peace process, because if the Right won, it would stop the political process."

Although Abu Wardah was

likely guided in his remarks by the Palestinian Authority, it is notable that he did not repeat any of the accusations made by Yasser Arafat. He did not say that Israeli extremists were involved, and he asserted that his operator was based in Gaza.

Sunday's Jerusalem suicide bomber was identified as Raed Shaghnooui, 21, also a student at the college. The suicide bomber who struck in Ashkelon was Ibrahim Husan Zarahna, 25.

In Gaza, Palestinian police displayed weapons they had found during raids over the past few days, including sticks of dynamite and belts with pockets for holding them. Police also raided the Islamic University for the first time, breaking down doors and arresting several guards.

"The snake's head is still in the Gaza Strip, and we will cut it off," Prime Minister Shimon Peres said yesterday. "It threatens the Palestinians and their future no less than it does others."

"For two days, the IDF and the security services have been waging an uncompromising war against terror in general and suicide bombers in particular," he told graduates of the IDF officer's training course.

"He's doing more than before," Peres said of Arafat. "But until he brings in the commanders of Hamas's military wing, I will not be satisfied," Peres told Channel 1.

Former GSS head Karmi Gilon said the information on the cell did not come from the Pal-



Hamas terrorist Mohammed Abu Wardah. (Khaled Zighan)

stinians, but from Israeli intelligence.

"In the past year we have prevented any of these sorts of organizational efforts, including those in the autonomous areas. But intelligence doesn't give a 100 percent answer. When it came to preventing attacks there was a failure," he told Army Radio.

Gilon said the name of the cell's leader is being kept secret for operational reasons.

"We are talking of one cell that succeeded in carrying out three horrible suicide attacks. At least here, we succeeded in getting to the operators in a short amount of time, which prevented further attacks," he said.

Extremists plan to put curse on Peres

A NUMBER of right-wing extremists, most of them identified with Kach, said yesterday they are planning to hold a ceremonial cursing of Prime Minister Shimon Peres.

A similar kabbalistic ceremony in which Yitzhak Rabin was cursed was held last Yom Kippur Eve. It was organized by Kach activist Avigdor Eskin, who later claimed that the prayer had proved effective when Rabin was assassinated.

Eskin is one of the organizers of the ceremony to curse Peres. He said he has received many requests to curse Peres on the grounds that he is endangering Jewish lives. He

(Continued on Page 2)

Likud: Peres conspired to blame Likud for bombings

SARAH HONIG

THE Likud last night charged that Prime Minister Shimon Peres had conspired to blame it for the spate of terrorist bombings in an "unprecedented dirty trick."

The Likud reacted furiously to an interview on Channel 1 with Hamas terrorist Mohammed Abu Wardah, sentenced in Jericho to life for allegedly helping set up the Jerusalem and Ashkelon blasts, who claimed that the recent atrocities were committed specifically to help the Likud defeat Labor, and thereby stymie the peace process.

Following the interview with Abu Wardah, Peres said on Channel 1 that he had known this for a long time, but did not want to say so in order not to "fan the flames."

In an official communique, the Likud charged that what "was revealed here was vile collusion between Peres and [Palestinian Authority President Yasser] Arafat in an attempt to influence the election results in Israel. It is a shame and a scandal that an Israeli prime minister should conspire with Arafat in an abject

(Continued on Page 2)

Israeli Arab detained for smuggling in Dizengoff bomber

DAVID RUDGE and ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

AN Israeli Arab has been arrested by police and the General Security Service on suspicion of having smuggled the Dizengoff Center suicide bomber directly from Gaza to the site of the blast.

The man, 45, a resident of a Beduin village in the Jezreel Valley, was remanded yesterday for 14 days by Tiberias Magistrate's Court. The court lifted a publicity ban on details of the arrest, but kept the blackout on the suspect's name and address.

The suspect, a father of eight who owns two trucks, allegedly smuggled the suicide bomber in a crate under the rear seat in the cab of one of his trucks. He reportedly took the man from the Karmi checkpoint on the edge of the Gaza Strip to the junction of Dizengoff and King George streets.

The bomb, consisting of 15 kg. of TNT and nails, was reportedly hidden in a bag carried by the bomber.

Just over a minute after he was dropped off, the bomber detonated the device, killing himself and 13 other people. The suspect had allegedly earlier made contact with an Islamic Jihad activist from Gaza and agreed to transport the man for \$1,100.

He has reportedly confessed to smuggling the man from Gaza to Tel Aviv, but has denied any prior knowledge that he was a suicide bomber. He reportedly told police that he thought the man simply wanted to work in Israel. Inquiries into this aspect of the case are continuing.

The suspect regularly traveled to Gaza and the West Bank. According to the GSS and police, he is an activist in the Islamic movement. He was arrested at his home a few hours after the

bombing. The Karmi crossing, which was open on Monday for humanitarian reasons despite the closure, serves as a transfer point for Israeli and Palestinian goods. On normal days, scores of Israeli and Palestinian trucks are parked there back-to-back, and goods are passed back and forth under the supervision of Israeli and Palestinian forces.

The crossing was closed yesterday, and the IDF was keen on showing reporters that nothing could now get through. OC Gaza Brig.-Gen. Yitzhak Eitan said the crossing would remain closed "until further notice." But he acknowledged that, sooner or later, Gazans would need food, and the closure would have to be eased.

Eitan added that large numbers of troops had been deployed to hermetically seal the Strip, and that all crossing points have been shut down. But, he added, it is impossible to totally ensure that no terrorist would slip through. "Not even the Berlin Wall was impregnable," he said.

The Erez crossing was also empty, and the IDF has barred the 2,000 Palestinians who work in the Erez industrial park, just inside the Strip, from their jobs.

"We stopped all contact between Palestinians and Israelis because we don't want there to be any chance of one of them slipping in from Gaza," said Col. Nabi, the area brigade commander.

The disclosure of the case sent shock waves through the suspect's village and its 800 residents. Family and friends refused to believe that he could have

been involved in any way. They described him as a reliable family man, who worked hard and was not short of money.

His wife told reporters that their 17-year-old son had also been arrested, but had later been released.

She said her husband had denounced the attack. "He said that

we are on the road to peace, and that the attack was carried out by a crazy person and that it was wrong," she said.

Relatives and friends denied allegations the suspect is a fundamentalist or had any connection with Moslem extremists. "I don't believe it. I've known him since I was born and he has never done anything bad," one neighbor said.

TERROR VICTIMS' ASSOCIATION (TVA)

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In the light of the call by Rabbis Shapira Elyahu, Leor, Druckman and Professor Eliazur, together with 300 other rabbis and 70 Knesset members, we appeal to synagogue committees to place a charity box in synagogues for donations to the TVA.

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Christopher launches campaign to isolate Hamas

MILLEL KUTTLER WASHINGTON

THE US effort to rein in Hamas continued yesterday, with Secretary of State Warren Christopher hosting an unusual meeting with ambassadors from the Arab world, Israel, Russia, Japan, and European nations.

Christopher said it was "especially" important for Israel to have the support of its Arab neighbors at this "critical" time. President Bill Clinton is open to the notion of a summit of Middle East leaders to coordinate a response to attacks aimed at derailing the peace process, the White House said.

there ought to be at the highest levels urgent attention to the question of how to combat terrorism," the White House spokesman said. "That's been the focus of the president's communications in the region. Whether that would lead to some type of larger discussion remains to be seen, but that type of discussion could indeed be helpful."

The actions announced yesterday constitute a "diplomatic initiative to isolate Hamas," State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns reported Christopher as having told the group.

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Orient House press conference prevented

POLICE yesterday prevented Palestinian Authority figures from holding a press conference in Jerusalem to condemn the recent Hamas terror attacks, saying the Oslo accords forbid such PA activity in Jerusalem.

Dozens of policemen surrounded Orient House about an hour before the press conference was to begin, closing off roads and forbidding anyone from approaching the PLO headquarters.

An agreement was eventually reached allowing Faisal Hussein, the senior PLO figure in Jerusalem, to hold a one-man press conference.

"In light of Faisal Hussein's pledge that ... the heads of the PA from outside Jerusalem would not attend, as originally planned ... it has been decided to let the press conference go ahead," the police said.

Police had originally charged that the PA was planning a "conference" at Orient House "in violation of the Jericho-Gaza accord," but when it turned out all that was planned was a press conference, this too was forbidden.

PA Religious Affairs Minister Hassan Tahboub, and newly elected PA council members Hanan Ashrawi and Ziyad Abu Zayyad, along with religious leaders, were originally supposed to attend.

Husseini opened the press conference by saying he had promised the police to only speak about Palestinian reaction to the recent terror attacks, and declined to answer questions on the government's crackdown on Hamas.

A police spokesman, however, said no limits were put on topics on which Hussein could speak.

"I have visited the homes of three families in mourning, Jewish, Moslem, and Christian. All were victims of these crimes,

these explosions," Hussein said. "We deplore these attacks not just because they hurt the peace process, but from all points of view, political, religious, and moral."

He said police refused a Palestinian request to hold a rally in Jerusalem in condemnation of the attacks. Hussein said he also wanted to head a Palestinian solidarity delegation to the Knesset, but this was rejected by government leaders.

He said he was scheduled to head a Palestinian delegation to meet with Tel Aviv Mayor Ronni Milo yesterday, but that Milo canceled at the last minute because he had to attend the funeral of a Dizengoff bombing victim.

Meanwhile, 10 firebombs were found in the attic of a home in Beit Hanina by court bailiffs. There was no one home at the time of the search, and no arrests were made, a police spokeswoman said.

BILL HUTMAN

'Israeli Arabs involved in terror are exception'

DAVID RUDGE

ISRAELI Arabs who in the past had a hand in terror attacks were the exception rather than the rule, according to Dr. Elie Rekhess, an expert on Israeli Arabs.

Rekhess, director of the program on Arab politics in Israel at Tel Aviv University's Dayan Center, noted that there had been a wave of recruitment of Israeli Arabs to terrorist organizations immediately after the Six Day War.

He said some 400 had been enrolled into terrorist organizations. Since then, however, the trend among Israeli Arabs has been away from violence and fanaticism, he said.

"I do not want to minimize some of the extreme cases but there have only been a few instances and basically the armed struggle was rejected by Israeli Arabs as a means for achieving their political goals," said Rekhess.

"In fact, since the early 1970s and especially since the beginning of the peace process, Israeli Arabs have distanced themselves from active involvement in Palestinian affairs and have focused on their own interests.

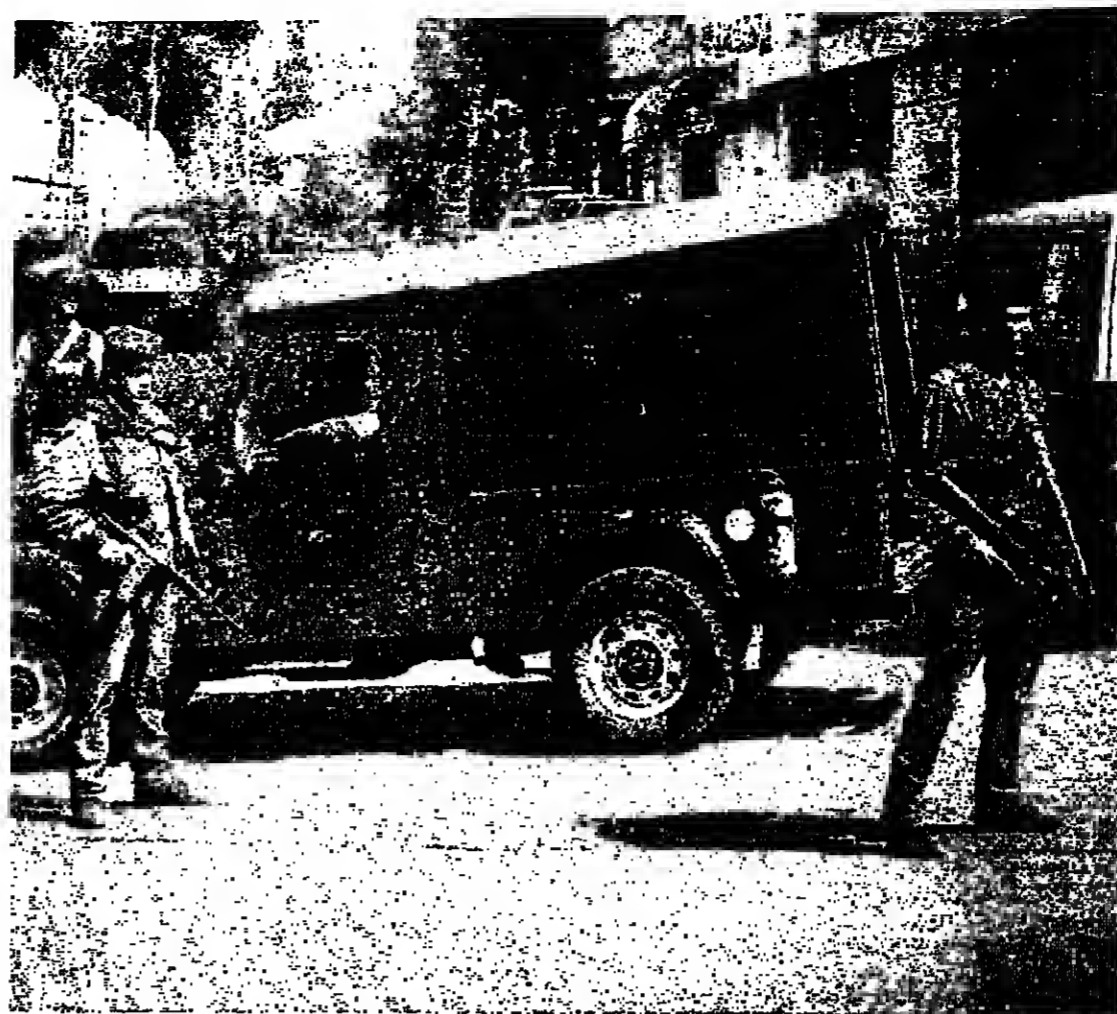
ISRAELI Arab leaders expressed shock and outrage yesterday over the news that an Israeli Arab from the North had been arrested on suspicion of aiding the Dizengoff suicide bomber.

"Somebody like this does not represent even a small minority within a minority of the Israeli Arab community," said Hussein Suleiman, spokesman for the forum of Israeli Arab council heads.

He urged the public not to tar all members of the Israeli Arab community with the same brush. "An entire community cannot be judged on the basis of the actions of one rotten individual. If the allegations against him are correct, he is a criminal of the highest order and must be punished with the full weight of the law."

"Arabs and Jews have a common fate in this country. We have proved our loyalty over the years and we do not need any receipts for it."

Suleiman noted that there have been "aberrations" among members of the Jewish community, but this did not mean that all Jews



Policemen block the road leading to Orient House yesterday.

(Brian Hendler)

Arrest of villager shocks Israeli Arabs

DAVID RUDGE

Elia, an Arab restaurant owner in Ramle, was also shocked when he heard about the arrest of the Arab who lives in a Beduin village.

"These Hamas lunatics also hurt us," he said at his small restaurant in the Arab quarter of the city. "We are Israeli citizens; even though we have our own culture, I also sent my daughter in Purim costume today." If he could, he added, he would send his son to serve in the IDF.

A customer from a Druse village in the North also expressed his "disgust and pain at this betrayal. We serve in the IDF, so when something like this happens it hurts all of us," he said.

"They should give him the death sentence," said Elia angrily.

"The Hamas bomber does not differentiate between Arab and Jew. Look at the Jerusalem attacks when Arabs have also met their deaths. I knew that poor man from the Old City, the deaf and dumb one who lived alone and was blown up on the bus."

Raine Marcus contributed to this report.

Sarsur also rejected claims made yesterday by Likud MK David Mena that certain Israeli Moslem organizations and some local councils are helping to fund Hamas activities.

"These allegations are completely baseless and unjustified. There is no connection between humanitarian aid for people in urgent need and giving assistance to Hamas and the military wing of Hamas," he said.

Sheikh Abdallah Nimr Darweesh, spiritual head of the Islamic movement, told reporters that there is no truth to allegations that the villager arrested was a member of the movement.

Darweesh also revealed that he has received threats because of his outspoken public condemnation of the Hamas attacks.

He was among a delegation of Israeli Arab leaders who met with Religious Affairs Minister Shimon Shetret yesterday to denounce the terror attacks and express condolences to the bereaved families.

Settlements along the Green Line will get 87 more security officers and 42 more security vehicles. Shahal praised the 3,400 volunteers operating in the area.

The border with the Gaza Strip must also be strengthened, stressed Shahal, since there are many openings in the fences, which are also easy to climb.

Justice Minister David Liba'i is expected to sign a document today enabling expedited trial proceedings for Arabs working here illegally and their Israeli employers. Shahal is campaigning for a mandatory two-year prison term for such employers.

"It is possible to block all entrance of illegal vehicles and pedestrians," Inspector-General Assaf Hefetz told the meeting.

"At the moment there are loopholes along the seam lines and other borders. We must close off these areas completely."

"The IDF will guard certain borders, while more innovative missions suit the Border Police," he said, noting that an additional 12 Border Police units are needed.

He stressed the need for more intelligence systems, since "there will always be tension between the two populations."

Border Police chief Cmdr. Yisrael Sadan told of plans to reinforce his forces, both along the Green Line and in Jerusalem.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Palestinian Council meets today

Members of the newly elected Palestinian council will meet for the first time today, setting the clock ticking for revocation of clauses in the PLO Covenant calling for Israel's destruction.

Council members left yesterday for the Gaza Strip, where they will hold their inaugural session in a Gaza City auditorium. Under the terms of the Israel-PLO agreement signed last fall, the covenant must be amended within two months of the council's inauguration.

Because of the strict closure imposed on the West Bank and Gaza following the recent series of suicide bombings, council members were escorted from the West Bank by IDF vehicles.

Izzadin Kassam leaflet offers to stop terror

Izzadin Kassam, the armed wing of Hamas, yesterday offered to stop all armed activity with no time limit, and to turn itself into a political opposition only. The six-point leaflet, its third statement in the past week, issued in the name of the "Martyr units of Izzadin Kassam" offered "to stop all military activities ... inside and outside Gaza and to start a new period of political struggle."

If the leaflet is genuine, it is the first time Izzadin Kassam has agreed to give up violence as a political weapon. Jon Immanuel

State Department report on human rights

Israeli and Palestinian security forces in the territories and autonomous areas have abused and sometimes tortured suspects, a State Department report released yesterday concludes. The annual human rights review also states that Syria's performance had improved but that "the government continues to restrict or deny fundamental rights." Hillel Kuttler

DEPUTY

(Continued from Page 1)

cooperating with Hamas, Abbas suggested asking Arafat himself. He said it sufficed to say the peace process has many opponents, but refused to say they are cooperating.

Regarding convening the Palestine National Council to change the PLO Covenant, Abbas said the meeting would be held during the last 10 days of April or in May, and that all references calling for Israel's destruction will be eliminated. Abbas insisted that

he had an agreement with Israel that all members and alternate members of the PNC could return to the territories not just for the vote but also to live. The joint interview last night was held at the UN special coordinator Terje Larsen's office in Gaza. It was the result of consultations yesterday between Larsen, US Consul-General in Jerusalem Ed Abington, and top PA officials, and was approved by Arafat, who designated Abbas to speak on behalf of the PA. The interview was held without any restrictions.

MORE than NIS 20 million will be allocated for security along the Green Line this year, Internal Security Minister Moshe Shabail said yesterday at a conference with 87 local council heads.

"This budget has already been authorized by the Treasury," he said.

Each town and settlement along the Green Line will receive more security officers, vehicles, and other measures. The money will also be used to build fences containing sophisticated hi-tech systems, such as closed circuit TV cameras, telescopic night sights, and sensors. Police helicopters will also be used extensively, said Shabail.

"We cannot build an impenetrable wall which no one can penetrate," he said. "But the measures we will take will decrease considerably the possibility of terrorists entering Israel. We will at least know that anyone not authorized to be here has not entered through legitimate crossings, and has either entered for criminal or terrorist motives. Otherwise he would have no reason to be here."

He stressed that although fences and other measures along the Green Line would not bring 100 percent success, "around 90% can be achieved. But there is no total solution for the suicide bomber," he said.

RAINE MARCUS

LIKUD

know full well that, unlike the Peres regime, a Likud government would pursue them everywhere and all the time."

MK Ze'ev Begin termed the interview the "vilest and most odious of all the odious maneuvers of which Peres is so capable. The PLO, which wants to help Peres out, had Jibril Rajoub heat this guy up, and, fresh out of Rajoub's torture dungeons, still visibly shaken, he says that Hamas' motive was to put the Likud in power. Peres is seen nodding, and then he begins a pathetic 20-minute appearance on TV saying that yes, he had known this for a

long time, but didn't want to say so in order not to 'fan the flames.' "What base hypocrisy. He says he didn't want to fan the flames but, of course, he does precisely that. A more vile performance on Peres's part cannot be imagined ... We will make Peres pay for this at the polls. We will show how his Oslo deals are deals with which we most literally cannot live."

Labor party secretary-general Nissim Zivili last night called the Likud reaction "ludicrous. This is obviously one more indication of the Likud's campaign strategy in a shambles, that the party is in a loss to explain itself, and is reaching out for the most ridiculous charges possible."

action to condemn the bombings and to work to prevent any further terrorism in the region," Burns said, adding that the presence in Damascus of a Hamas office is "most disappointing."

Christopher was also scheduled to host a meeting with congressional leaders last night to urge them to support the administration's actions.

National Security Adviser Anthony Lake said that economic assistance to the Palestinians should continue to encourage the Palestinian public to "stand up for peace."

Syrian Ambassador Walid Mualem was out of town and his deputy, Souad Ayoubi, "did not make a comment" during the meeting, Burns said.

During his call to Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Shara on Tuesday, Christopher said: "It would be beneficial if Syria took

CLARIFICATION

In the Friday, March 1 edition of *The Jerusalem Post*, Syrian academic Zuhair Diab was reported as being in close touch with the regime. Diab wants to make it clear that he has not been in contact with the Assad government for several years.

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CHRISTOPHER

(Continued from Page 1)

Burns said the US thought it "most encouraging" to bear the strong condemnations uttered by the envoys of Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Jordan, and Egypt.

"It's not just words. It means that there is a new day, that Arabs and Israelis together can condemn terrorism, even if it comes from an Arab organization," Burns said.

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CURSE

(Continued from Page 1)

said he inquired about issuing the curse with Kach activist Rabbi Yosef Dayan.

Dayan said that at first he had been opposed to cursing Peres, but that the recent string of terror attacks persuaded him to hold the ceremony. Dayan said he consulted with other kabbalists in Jerusalem who agreed that the curse should be issued. He said he is waiting for a rabbi from Safed to approve it, and that no date has yet been set.

Later, Eskin denied that he is organizing the ceremony.

Last night, police detained Eskin at Ben-Gurion Airport as he was boarding a plane for Russia, and brought him in for questioning. (Tim)

Israeli Arabs and Beduin were involved in past terror

BACKGROUND
BATSHEVA TSUR

RESIDENTS of Arab and Beduin towns in Israel have reportedly been involved in the perpetration of terrorist acts twice in the past four years.

On February 14, 1992, three residents of the Umm el-Fahm area armed with axes, knives, and a pitchfork infiltrated an IDF tent camp near Galed, 14 km. east of Zichron Ya'acov, and hacked to death three soldiers.

The Friday night attack was apparently planned for a time when most of the soldiers were asleep. Only nine soldiers were in the encampment, on a deserted hill near a forest, as most had weekend passes. The infiltrators surprised the sentry, a new recruit, and stabbed him to death as he ran into the nearest tent.

They then stabbed two other sleeping, killing one. When the duty corporal heard the commotion, he ran toward the attackers but was overcome and also stabbed to death.

A soldier guarding the nearby ammunition tent shot at the terrorists, who escaped in the direction of Umm el-Fahm.

On March 3, 1992, brothers Ibrahim and Mohammed Agbariya, 24 and 26, and their relative, Yihye Agbariya, all from the village of Musheirifa near Umm el-Fahm; and Said Jabarine, 40, of Umm el-Fahm, were arrested.

The brothers reconstructed the attack. Five days later, another Umm el-Fahm resident was arrested. All confessed membership in Islamic Jihad.

On March 23, they were formerly charged with murder, attempted murder, criminal conspiracy, illegal possession of weapons, and membership in an illegal organization. They were sentenced to life and refused to express regret.

The second incident, involving residents of Tel Sheva in the south, took place a year ago. On March 3, 1995, police arrested Issam Farhat, 22, on suspicion of assisting two Gaza residents whose explosive-laden truck was discovered in the town a few days earlier. The terrorists are thought to have planned to blow up the truck in the center of Beersheba. Farhat and two other residents of the Beduin town, Imad Abu Rokayak, 23, and Riyad Samri, 44, were remanded in Beersheba Magistrate's Court. On June 10, 1995, the case was transferred to a military court.

SA Jews outraged at planned Hamas visit

JOHANNESBURG (Reuters) - South African Jews were outraged yesterday that President Nelson Mandela is willing to meet representatives of Hamas "whose hands are dripping with blood."

Asked on Tuesday about reports of the planned Hamas visit, Mandela said that while he condemned the bombings he is willing to meet representatives of the group.

"My attitude is to see everybody who wants to see me, whether I agree with his policy or not. It sometimes helps because I'm able to state my policy to them and to let them defend their own policy if they can," Mandela said.

To Marilyn and Larry Butchins and family
All your friends in EADI - English Amateur Theater in Israel - offer deepest sympathy on the terrible loss of
SYLVIA BERNSTEIN and GAIL BELKIN
Yanky Fachler EADI Chairman John Furman EADI President
Our thoughts and prayers are with all the bereaved families and the injured.

The Executive and Staff of the
South African Zionist Federation (Israel)
mourn with the
Bernstein, Belkin, Butchins and Geshen families
the deaths of
SYLVIA BERNSTEIN
and
GAIL BELKIN
who were so tragically struck down in the
heinous terrorist attack at the Dizengoff Center.

הכרזת הצדקה

Bodies of Romanians blown home
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Bodies of Romanians flown home

News agencies

THE bodies of five Romanians killed in Sunday's suicide bomb attack in Jerusalem were flown home yesterday to the walls of grief-stricken relatives.

"What have they done to my Marian?" sobbed Maria Gropan, waiting for her husband's coffin at Bucharest's Otopeni Airport.

Six Romanians, five men and a woman, were among the 18 people killed in the attack. The five men whose bodies were returned worked for the same company. The body of the woman, a tourist, is due to be flown back to Romania next week.

"We are all in the same boat," Israeli Ambassador Avshalom Megiddon told Reuters as he waited for the 5 a.m. flight.

Israel paid for the bodies to be flown home, and Megiddon assured groups of black-clad widows and family that they would receive financial support for the loss of their men.

The National Insurance Institute also paid to bring the families of two Romanians injured in the attack to Israel.

The coffins, covered with wreaths and Romania's national colors, were taken to a cargo terminal where mortuary vans waited.

"My nephew Dominic was one of the five," said Dominic Lunca. "His father was there too, but he missed the bus because he stopped to mail a letter home. His father is in a state of shock. He called home after the tragedy to say he saw the bus drive away and then explode a few seconds later. Now he's bringing his son home in a coffin."

Meanwhile, Rahel Sela, 82, of Tel Aviv, killed in the Dizengoff bombing, was buried yesterday at Har Hamenubot in Jerusalem.

She had been on her way to get her hair done before going to a concert with her only son, Dr. Avner, who eulogized her. She is also survived by three grandchildren.

Gail Belkin and Sylvia Bernstein were also buried yesterday.

Thirty-one of those injured in the attack, three of their children, are still in Ichilov Hospital. Five of them are in serious condition, and three in satisfactory condition. Another victim is in satisfactory condition at Sheba Hospital.

Five people wounded in the recent Jerusalem terror attacks remain in critical condition. Twenty-five people in all remain hospitalized in Hadassah University hospitals in Ein Kerem and Mt. Scopus and Shaare Zedek Hospital.

A total of 15 new immigrants lost their lives in the terrorist attacks of the past 10 days, Absorption Minister Yair Tzaban said yesterday.

In proportion to the general population, immigrants have suffered twice the number of casualties, he said.

Speaking after a visit to the bereaved families and the wounded, Tzaban noted that 18 immigrants had also been wounded. Six are still in the hospital and four of them are in serious condition, he said.

Bill Hutman and Batsheva Tsur contributed to this report.



President Bill Clinton walks away after speaking at a memorial service Tuesday night at the Israeli Embassy in Washington for the victims of the suicide bombings. (AP)

Clinton: God will deliver Israel from 'powerful vipers'

HILLEL KUTTLER WASHINGTON

FOUR months to the day since visiting the Israeli embassy upon Yitzhak Rabin's assassination, President Bill Clinton returned Tuesday night to reassure Israelis that Americans "mourn Israel's terrible loss and we share your outrage."

At a memorial service for the 60 people killed in the four recent bomb attacks, Clinton told local Jews that the US will help Israel "fight terrorism with unshakable resolve" and "step up the struggle for peace."

He had earlier in the day dispatched bomb-detecting equipment and anti-terrorism specialists to Israel.

Clinton also urged Israelis to have faith that just as "God delivered Daniel" from the lions' den,

"I believe God will deliver Israel from those powerful vipers who have the ability to turn young men into mad suicide mass murderers."

The president's eyes moistened as he spoke of the killers having terrified "every young child in Israel" who "goes to bed tonight worrying" about their personal safety.

"We stand with you in a determination to bring this terror to an end and to bring to justice those responsible for the senseless violence that has afflicted the Land of Israel and taken the lives of innocent people," Clinton said.

"In moments such as these, our anguish challenges our spirit. Daughters and sons, husbands and wives, brothers and sisters, mothers and fathers, friends - murdered, murdered solely for the blood running through their veins, solely because of where they live, solely because they wish to live in peace..."

"Once again, under terrible burdens, the people of Israel must choose: to fight against terrorism, to restore their security, to stand for peace. Once again, as ever, the US stands with you, shoulder-to-shoulder, heart-to-heart."

"Chazak, chazak, v'nitchazek. May God bless the victims and cherish their souls. May God bless Israel with faith and courage."

Remand extended for alleged planner of Beit Lid

THE Lod Military Court yesterday extended by six days the remand of Abdel Khalim Balbisi, 27, of Jabaliya, suspected of planning the Beit Lid bombing on January 27, 1995.

The bombing killed 22 people. The prosecution said Balbisi is suspected of offenses which make him a danger to the public and national security.

Balbisi has been detained since December 6.

The court was also told there is prima facie evidence tying him directly to the attack.

Interrogators said he had given the keys to a house in Tulkarm, in which a third explosive charge

was found, which was to have been detonated by a third suicide bomber on the day of the attack.

According to the prosecution, Balbisi was drafted into the Fathi Shkaki wing of Islamic Jihad by Iman Razaineh, later killed in a clash with the IDF.

The two checked out various sites for the attack, and Balbisi suggested the Beit Lid junction, since he was familiar with it.

He allegedly drove the explosives from Gaza to Tulkarm a day before the attack, explained to the two suicide bombers how to carry it out, and tied the explosives to them.

The bombers' identity cards and clothes belonging to them were also found in the Tulkarm house.

Balbisi denied the charges, and said Razaineh transported the explosives.

Internal Security Minister Moshe Shahal told reporters that the two bombers had entered Israel during an easing of a closure.

He added that the two had disguised themselves as blind men seeking treatment. (lit)

US bomb-detecting equipment arrives

News agencies

THE first shipment of sophisticated bomb-detecting equipment supplied by the US to help stop Hamas terror arrived here yesterday.

Eight bomb detection devices arrived at Ben-Gurion Airport on board a US C-141 military transport. Internal Security Minister Moshe Shahal said some of the equipment, worth \$100 million, would be set up within days at crossing points between Israel and the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"Thank you, friend," Shahal said at an airport ceremony in

which he accepted the shipment dispatched by President Bill Clinton.

Prime Minister Shimon Peres thanked Clinton and the American people for their cooperation in the struggle against Islamic terrorism and expressed appreciation for Clinton's personal involvement in expediting the first shipment of the equipment.

The White House acknowledged that the high-tech equipment had been on Israel's wish-list for months, but was held up

by a question of who would pay for it.

"We have almost constant dialogue with the government of Israel about military items, about items related to security... and there had been some disagreement about the funding," White House spokesman Mike McCurry told reporters.

Today, a special US technical team is to arrive to help instruct Israel on using the anti-terror equipment. The team's activities will be coordinated by Yigal Pressler, the prime minister's adviser on terrorism.

Police still out in full force

RAINE MARCUS

POLICE were still out in city streets and intercity highways yesterday, as part of an emergency alert against suicide bombings.

Vehicles were stopped and drivers' credentials checked. On the main highway from Ramle to Tel Aviv, police vans were posted at nearly every junction and hitchhiking post.

One soldier said uniformed police were even checking soldiers'

documents and, in some cases, searched "suspicious looking" soldiers.

Meanwhile, explosive experts said that the equipment sent from the US to assist in the fight against terror cannot help against a suicide bomber with a 10 kilogram bomb strapped to his body.

"Such a terrorist can detonate

a bomb in a split second. But the equipment can help detect explosives before they reach the terrorists - whether they are hidden in trucks, houses, or other places," said a senior police officer.

Former GSS official Gideon Ezra said that many terrorist bombs may be made from unexploded mines in Sinai which are smuggled into the Gaza Strip, either by sea or through the desert.

Subdued Dizengoff Center reopens

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

TWO days after a suicide bomber tore open its heart, Tel Aviv made a conscious but hesitant effort to resume normality.

Dizengoff Center, though still licking its wounds, opened its doors again.

But the false heartiness of seasonal sales could not restore the broken spirit. Few shoppers and fewer children roamed the corridors. The scores of shops, restaurants and cafes were almost empty.

"People are just not in the mood to celebrate or even to shop so soon after the bomb," a saleslady at Hamashbir spoke in hushed tones.

"Usually on such a day we're crowded," she said. "However, by tomorrow or the next day, you'll have to stand in line again, I promise you."

At the automated bank tellers outside, the demonstrators and crowds were gone. Under a brooding sky, a small island of memorial candles splintered on the pavement, a silent witness to the nightmare of the past 48 hours.

Police, some in khaki, others in blue, formed the biggest groups as they guarded the entrances and patrolled the side-

walk to restore public confidence.

Workers on ladders were busy repairing the twisted entrances and shattered glass walls of Bank Hapoalim and Bank Leumi. The gutted automated tellers were covered with soggy cardboard; a city dumpster was filled with broken glass and twisted light fixtures. The Bank Leumi clock still told the city it was 3:56 p.m.

But in the rest of the city, it was business as usual.

"Look, I don't know how to deal with Hamas," said Miri Belkin, an instructor of weight-loss groups, at her job a five-minute walk from Dizengoff Center. "All I know how to do is to go on working. Of course, it's easier to give in and stay in bed under the covers, saying: I'm in trauma, I'm scared. But that's just what the Hamas wants, to disrupt our lives. We won't let it do that. So here I am."

Smadar, a jeweler, did not return to her stall at the Nahalat Binyamin pedestrian mall. "I was too depressed," she confessed. "Our studio is on King George Street, a few minutes walk from

the Center. Besides, I was scared. But today I'm out on the street again, and I fully intend to be at the mall fair on Friday."

Haim and Esther Cameli-Golan, two pensioners who live in the area, take their daily walk by Dizengoff Center. The bomb, which they heard from their apartment, shocked them.

But the very next day they were out walking their usual route.

"No matter how confused we feel, we keep our feelings under control," said Haim, a former gunner with the Free French Air Force, and later for the IAF.

"It's a matter of culture. No, we certainly did not feel despair."

"The young people react with anger," adds Esther. "But we feel a great weariness. We know fury is no solution."

In the Center, there is one small boy at a hamburger joint wearing a gold cardboard crown. A defiant Purim reveler! No his mother says. It's just a Burger Chef crown. It was a sad Purim for the children this year. "But never mind," she adds with a sigh and a smile. "We'll celebrate twice as hard next year."

French FM coming for solidarity

PARIS (Reuters) - French Foreign Minister Herve de Charette was due to arrive in Israel last night to demonstrate support for Middle East peace efforts after the recent wave of suicide bombings, his office said yesterday.

The Foreign Ministry said in a statement that de Charette would meet Israeli and Palestinian leaders and that members of the foreign affairs committees of both houses of the French parliament would accompany him.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Yves Doutriaux said the trip was "to demonstrate our solidarity with the Israeli people who have been hit very hard by these terrible attacks and our willingness to help the Israelis and the Palestinian Authority fight terrorism and support the peace process."

France summoned the ambassadors of Iran and Libya yesterday to complain at rejoicing in their countries over the bomb attacks and representatives of most French parties attended a silent rally in support of Middle East peace in Paris.

Education Ministry issued guidelines on dealing with stress

BATSHEVA TSUR

THE Education Ministry's psychological services yesterday issued special guidelines to principals, teachers and kindergarten teachers on how to deal with stress situations.

Schools were instructed to hold discussions on current affairs and

to relate sensitively to the feelings expressed by the pupils. It was suggested that every school set up a special staff to deal with stress situations and that discussions be held not only with pupils

but, wherever necessary, also with parents.

The emphasis should be on creating an atmosphere where the youngsters feel it is legitimate to express their opinions and that there is someone to turn to, the guidelines state.

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Bosnian Federation gets third Serb Sarajevo town

SARAJEVO (Reuters) - The Bosnian Moslem-Croat federation took control of a third Sarajevo township from Serbs peacefully yesterday after a confrontation between NATO troops and Croat police who had seized a police station.

Crowds of civilians followed federation police into the southwestern suburb of Hadzici where the town hall and several apartment blocks blazed in the wake of fleeing Serbs.

The last 50 Serbs huddled around open fires in the main street until 3 a.m. when buses arrived to take them to Bosnian Serb territory.

Hadzici is the third Serb suburb of Sarajevo to be handed to the federation under a Bosnia peace deal which ended 3 1/2 years of war in the former Yugoslav republic. The remaining two are due to revert to Moslem-Croat control by March 20.

The forlorn streets leapt back to life on Wednesday as Bosnian civilians streamed into Hadzici.

"It's been four years since we saw Hadzici - four years," a teenage boy shouted. "We got it back."

Crowds of young men whooped, drivers honked horns and Moslem and Croat refugees expelled during the Bosnian war came back to look at their home town.

Departing Serbs, fearing reprisals for their wartime siege of Sarajevo, left behind gutted houses and flats, stripped of anything valuable. Only a handful of houses still had windows.

Federation authorities gained control an hour late after a potentially nasty showdown between a group of Croat police, who occupied Hadzici police station on Tuesday, and NATO forces.

Backed by French troops, UN police chief Peter Fitzgerald threatened the 18 Croats with force unless they left.

"You are not authorized here... if you refuse to leave voluntarily, I will call on (NATO) and have you removed, by force if necessary," Fitzgerald told them.



US Senator Bob Dole gives a thumbs-up victory wave to his supporters after sweeping eight primaries on Tuesday.

Dole sweeps to 8-0 victory; Alexander, Lugar quit race

SENATE Majority Leader Bob Dole knocked two, possibly three, of his rivals for the Republican presidential nomination out of the race following his eight-state primary sweep on Tuesday.

Former Tennessee Gov. Lamar Alexander and Indiana Sen. Richard Lugar announced yesterday that they were withdrawing from the race.

And millionaire publisher Steve Forbes canceled campaign appearances and scheduled a news conference to make a "major announcement," amid signs he would also quit.

That would leave only conservative commentator Pat Buchanan left as a serious opposition to the Dole steamroller. Even Buchanan said yesterday that Dole's nomination to carry the Republican banner against President Bill Clinton in the November 5 election was inevitable.

But Buchanan indicated he would remain a thorn in Dole's side by staying in the race to get his conservative messages across to voters.

"Senator, Dole's nomination, seems

ALAN ELSNER
WASHINGTON

inevitable." Buchanan said on NBC's *Today Show* yesterday morning.

One other minor candidate, conservative talk radio host Alan Keyes, remains officially in the race, though he is drawing little support. Two others, California Representative Robert Dornan and businessman Morry Taylor, appear to have abandoned their campaigns without bothering to make any announcements.

Dole, whose White House dreams were written off by experts just a week ago, won all eight primaries held on Tuesday. Dole now has 276 of the 996 delegates needed to win the Republican nomination, according to a tally by CNN.

Buchanan said he wanted to make the Republican party less of a corporate American party and more attuned to the aspirations of middle class Americans.

"I want a Republican party that is different," he said "We are going to be at that convention

in San Diego."

Forbes had planned to spend an estimated \$3 million on TV ads for the campaign's next contest, tomorrow's New York primary, where Dole is well organized and expected to win.

A new poll Wednesday said Dole has increased his lead over opponents in New York. The Kansas senator had the support of 48.4 percent of Republican voters in the state, according to the *New York Post/Fox* television tracking poll.

It said Forbes was far behind with 18.7 percent and Buchanan was getting just 15.3 percent.

Party leaders immediately hailed Dole's showing as proof that the ugly, divisive Republican battle for the party's White House nomination was now over.

House of Representatives Speaker Newt Gingrich said the Dole victories effectively ended his party's battle for the presidential nomination. "I think it's over, I think he's the nominee," Gingrich said of Dole. (Reuters)

Chechen rebels attempt to recapture Grozny

GROZNY, Russia (AP) - Hundreds of rebel fighters launched a bold attack yesterday on Russian troops in the Chechen capital, setting off some of the fiercest fighting in Grozny since the beginning of the war.

The already-ravaged city shook with the sounds of machine guns, mines and exploding grenades as Russian troops battled rebel fighters on several fronts. Russian helicopter gunships flew over the center of Grozny, news reports said.

About 300 rebels attacked at dawn from several directions, striking Russian checkpoints on the outskirts of Grozny and then moving deeper into the city, the ITAR-Tass news agency said.

Russian tanks were moved toward downtown, and reinforcements were rushed to besieged Russian positions.

Guerrilla fighters seized at least two police stations, setting them on fire, and made repeated

attempts to reach the airport, news reports said.

ITAR-Tass said the rebels captured many civilian hostages; but it gave no details. Chechen fighters have taken hostages in past raids on towns outside of their separatist republic and have kidnapped Russians working in Chechnya.

Early reports said at least 10 Russian soldiers were dead and more than 30 wounded in yesterday's clashes. The Interfax news agency reported casualties among police and civilians. There were no reports on rebel casualties.

It appeared to be the worst fighting in Grozny since the Russians took the capital a year ago and the war moved into Chechnya's towns and countryside.

The Kremlin-backed Chechen government broadcasting appeals for calm to a terrified populace, the ITAR-Tass news agency said.

WORLD BRIEFS

Germany: Holocaust denial a mail crime too
MUNICH (Reuters) - Bavaria's highest court affirmed yesterday that spreading lies about the Holocaust - even in private letters - violates German law.

The Munich judges ordered a lower court to reconsider its decision to drop defamation charges against a 63-year-old man who in letters to members of parliament had denied the existence of gas chambers at Auschwitz.

Denying Hitler's mass extermination of European Jewry is illegal in Germany. The Regensburg lower court, however, had ruled that sending letters to a limited number of people did not constitute propagating a denial.

But the southern state's highest court said the man had clearly wanted to affect the legislative process by sending his letters. This constituted an attempt to propagate his views, the court ruled.

"No one can rely on guaranteed freedom of speech to protect expressions that deny the historic fact that Jews were murdered with poison gas in Auschwitz," the court ruled.

It said the man had sent his letters to a large number of people and had indicated his views could be passed on.

King Hussein at Mayo Clinic for checkup

ROCHESTER, Minnesota (AP) - Jordan's King Hussein, back at the Mayo Clinic for a routine annual checkup, is in excellent health, according to a clinic statement.

In 1992, the monarch came to Mayo to be treated for cancer. Surgeons removed his ureter and left kidney.

Hussein, 60, has been returning for checkups since the surgery. He was last here in April 1995.

The king arrived Monday afternoon.

Mayo said a statement would be released when the king leaves Mayo. Previous stays have generally been for a couple days.

New York's Second Ave. Deli owner slain

NEW YORK (AP) - Slaughter delicatessen owner Abe Lebewohl was praised at his memorial service as a father, friend and neighbor whose generosity matched the heaping sandwiches he served.

"We have half the Lower East Side here," said City Councilwoman Kathryn Freed as mourners gathered at the Community Synagogue Center on Tuesday, a day after Lebewohl was gunned down during a robbery.

Lebewohl, a 64-year-old Ukrainian immigrant, was killed Monday as he was about to deposit weekend receipts at a bank six blocks from his Second Avenue Deli, which is opened for business in 1954.

Minnie Pearl, country comedian, dead at 83

NASHVILLE, Tennessee (AP) - Minnie Pearl, whose homespun humor and shrill "Howdyyyyy!" made her the first country comedian known worldwide, died Monday. She was 83. Her boisterous, cheerful "Howdyyyyy! I'm just so proud to be here!" her wide-brimmed straw hat with its dangling \$1.98 price tag, her toothy grin, and her calico and gingham dresses were her trademarks on more than a half century on the Grand Ole Opry country music show and 20 years on the syndicated television show *See Saw*.

Much of her humor focused on a longstanding search for a "feller," a Southern slang term for man. A typical quip: "Kissing a feller with a beard is like a picnic. You don't mind going through a little brush to get there."

Pearl was elected to the Country Music Hall of Fame in 1975 and was voted Country Music Woman of the Year in 1966 by the Country Music Association.

Adams: IRA prepared for another 25 years of war

BELFAST, Northern Ireland (AP) - The IRA wants negotiations but is ready for "another 25 years of war" with the British, Sinn Fein party leader Gerry Adams says.

Adams, whose party supports the IRA but says it can't control the outlawed group, gave his account of the secret February 28 meeting in his regular column to the *Irish Voice*, a weekly Irish-American newspaper published in New York. Sinn Fein released advance copies yesterday.

Adams stopped short of saying whether the IRA would call a second cease-fire now that Britain and Ireland have set a June 10 date for all-party talks.

Both have said Sinn Fein cannot participate until the IRA restores the cease-fire it broke last month,

and they seek a formal renunciation of violence from Sinn Fein.

A commission led by former US Sen. George Mitchell in January spelled out a six-point renunciation plan, which would involve a start to IRA disarmament.

"There will be no surrender of IRA weapons under any circumstances and to anyone," Adams quoted one of several unnamed IRA commanders as saying. "Disarmament of all the armed groups is only viable as part of a negotiated settlement and nobody knows that better than the British. We will accept no preconditions."

He quoted one IRA figure as saying: "We sued for peace. The British wanted war. If that's what they want we'll give them another 25 years of war."

'Farrakhan got \$5 million from Iran'

NEW YORK - A member of Congress has alleged that Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan returned from his 18-country tour of Africa and the Middle East \$5 million richer, courtesy of the government of Iran.

In a letter to Attorney General Janet Reno, Rep. Peter King (R-NY) said he had received information from an "unimpeachable foreign diplomatic source" that Farrakhan received the \$5 million payment.

"Iran is the leading supporter of international terrorism," King said in a phone interview Tuesday. "They fund Hamas; they fund Hizbullah. They export more terrorism than any country in the world, even Libya. They wouldn't be giving money to Farrakhan unless it somehow advanced Iran's interest. Iran's interest is against America's interest."

Farrakhan's 18-nation tour provoked condemnation from the White House, which labeled it a "thugfest" because he met with extremist leaders such as Libya's Muammar Gaddafi and Iraq's Saddam Hussein as well as Iranian leaders.

An Iranian newspaper quoted Farrakhan as saying, "God will destroy America by the hands of the Moslems." Farrakhan denied making that statement. The Chicago-based Nation of Islam did not return telephone calls seeking comment on the alleged \$5 million payment from Iran.

After his return to the United States last month from his tour, Farrakhan confirmed that he had received a pledge of \$1 billion from Gaddafi to be used for "the social and political benefit of black Americans." He said nothing about any payment from Iran. (Newsday)

French Holocaust hearing sparks revisionism charge

BORDEAUX, France (Reuters) - Lawyers seeking the trial of French ex-cabinet minister Maurice Papon for crimes against humanity accused him yesterday of revisionism in saying Jews deported Jews and defending France's wartime regime.

They made the charge in an appeal court in Bordeaux, which was in session to decide whether Papon should be tried for allegedly deporting 1,690 Jews in 1942-44.

In an interview published yesterday, Papon, whose wartime record was unknown until 1981, told the daily *Libération* he was innocent, and the lists of Jews used by the authorities had been drawn up by Jews. He was no Nazi, he said, and had only followed orders.



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هكزامن الاصل

Fittingly fluid

FLAIR
GREER FAY CASHMAN

WHILE their collections are distinctively their own, what Dorin Frankfurt and Hagar Allembeck have always had in common is a penchant for fluid silhouettes.



These examples of Dorin Frankfurt's summer lineup are jazzed up with dots.

In general, their garments make allowances for figure zig-zags which are all but drastic. And although they're not into the one-size-fits-all syndrome, many of their past creations can be worn by women who may be as many as three sizes apart.

Many of the fabrics which Frankfurt utilizes in her creations for women, especially the spots and stripes, are repeated very effectively in her menswear lines, which are anything but conventional.

Frankfurt has always advocated that clothes should be comfortable and unrestricting, and from that perspective, the all-purpose blouse fits the summer bill much better than a jacket, even though it's not necessarily as smart.

Several of the dresses are long-sleeved and high necked. But Hagara is not the only fashion house which has recognized the potential of the religious market.

Not that Frankfurt disdains the jacket altogether - but she gives it far less prominence than it receives in the collections of most other designers.

Another area in which Hagara and Dorin Frankfurt differ from other designers is in their hemline focus. Yes, they do have some short skirts, but for the most part, they've individually elected to keep the knees covered.

For cocktail and evening wear, she has produced a trapeze-line lace shift, which is ageless in concept and flattering to anyone from 16 to 60 (and more). The cut also makes it suitable for maternity wear - at least up until the fifth month.

Allembek, who trades under the Hagara label, seems to be much more body conscious than in the past. The majority of her designs are constructed to waist level, while maintaining a sense of flow in the skirt. There are, however, a few straight skirts.

Hagara has revamped the button-through dress. Some fasten all the way down the front, others all the way down the back; and while there are a few plunging neck-

lines, most of the offerings are sufficiently chaste to grace the wardrobes of the religiously observant.

Several of the dresses are long-sleeved and high necked. But Hagara is not the only fashion house which has recognized the potential of the religious market.

Allembek, who trades under the Hagara label, seems to be much more body conscious than in the past. The majority of her designs are constructed to waist level, while maintaining a sense of flow in the skirt. There are, however, a few straight skirts.

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lines, most of the offerings are sufficiently chaste to grace the wardrobes of the religiously observant.

Several of the dresses are long-sleeved and high necked. But Hagara is not the only fashion house which has recognized the potential of the religious market.

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Senior citizens must stand up and claim their rights

CAVEAT EMPTORI!
RUTHIE BLUM

IF you are a pensioner in this country, you are entitled to reduced municipal taxes. Unfortunately for one misinformed senior citizen in Tel Aviv, lack of awareness was not sufficient cause for retroactive reimbursement.

When G.F. retired at the end of 1987, friends advised her to apply to the municipality for a discount in her *armona* (municipal tax) payments. To her disappointment, she says a member of staff at the Tel Aviv Municipality told her she was not entitled to such a discount. So G.F. went on making her full *armona* payments via a standing order at the bank.

At the end of 1995 - eight years later - a friendly bank employee took notice of G.F.'s "rather large" *armona* payments. Convinced that a mistake must have been made somewhere along the line, the clerk advised G.F. to inquire further at the municipality.

At the municipality, G.F. was put in touch with the ombudsman's office, where department head Shoshana Gali was shocked to discover that G.F. had been receiving a pension from the National Insurance Institute (NII) for eight years, without the municipality having adjusted her bill accordingly.

Ms. Gali assured G.F. that she was entitled to a reduction in her municipal taxes, and advised her how to proceed. G.F. obediently applied in writing to the municipality. Several weeks, phone calls, letters and visits later, she was informed that the extra money she had been paying unnecessarily was irretrievable.

As a "special gesture," however, the maganimous municipality agreed to return money owed her for one of the eight years. G.F. told me she is outraged that "a wealthy body can withhold money belonging to a senior citizen living on a very small pension" - particularly when the institution acknowledges that excess payments had been made.

According to NII spokeswoman Ronit Gendelater, information about pensioners is distributed four times a year to the Israel Local Authorities Data Processing Center in Tel Aviv - from where it should be received automatically by municipalities countrywide.

But if this information is automatically registered with the municipalities, then why was G.F.'s lack of formal request for a discount grounds to dismiss her demands?

After taking several days to "look into the matter," the Tel Aviv Municipality spokesman's office responded as follows:

"True, NII data normally registers automatically. But, in cases where there are mistakes, we do reimburse the difference."

"Nevertheless, we offered G.F. a year in retroactive payment. We are now even willing to offer her two years, but no more than that. Enough information about discounts is available to the public in our brochures. It's not our fault if G.F. didn't read the brochure."

Undoubtedly, G.F. is not alone. My advice is as follows: To find out if you are eligible for any kind of reduction in your municipal taxes, make sure you read the pamphlet attached to your bill. Do not rely on anonymous staff members to provide accurate information. Make sure to contact the department relevant to your inquiry, and always write down the name of the person assisting you.

Do not rely on computerized data. Make sure your particulars have reached the appropriate destination. If you are a recent pensioner (or about to become one) find out about any discounts to which you are entitled.

If dealing directly with this or any other establishment seems

daunting, you can contact The Center for Voluntarism in Israel with questions or complaints. This organization trains volunteer administrators and managers to operate networks of volunteers countrywide to assist citizens in various ways.

Director General Matti Weill says that G.F. is welcome to contact the center to be advised on how to pursue her case. (One of the services provided by volunteers is legal aid - including accompaniment to a Small Claims Court.)

Another organization Weill recommended was the Citizens' Advice Bureau of the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs. Bureau director David Knafo invites citizens in need of information about their rights, or assistance in consumer affairs, to contact his office.

The Center for Voluntarism in Israel, 108 Rehov Petah Tikva, Tel Aviv, Tel.: (03) 561-4144, Fax: (03) 561-3343. Citizens' Advice Bureau, 220 Rehov Ben-Yehuda, Tel Aviv, Tel.: (03) 544-3205; (02) 708138. (For phone numbers of other of the 40 branches, look in the Yellow Pages under "Shrutut Ye'utz L'Ezrah".)

You are invited to ask questions or offer personal stories about goods and services in this country. Write to: Ruthie Blum, POB 81, 91000 Jerusalem.

Trends emerge at toy fair

FIRST, the news: The next "aspiration" Barbie doll is a veterinarian; a blood-curdling digital scream has been added to Karate Fighters; there is a fax machine for four-year-olds.

There are very few stand-alone best-sellers like Barbie, who brought in \$1.4 billion last year. If a toy isn't related to a Saturday morning television show, a movie, a book or a comic book - then one is created. The Littlest Pet Shop line, for example, was a toy that inspired a cartoon series, which in turn has been the template for more toys.

Some trends seem to be emerging, judging from whirlwind surveys of a half-dozen major toymakers. There are more teeny-tiny toys, such as miniature aliens and minuscule kitchen utensils. There are more remote-control toys, even for toddlers. More talking, barking, singing, giggling toys; more stuff that travels; and more that have multiple uses.

Action figures, dolls and games related to such current or anticipated kiddie hits as the "Goosebumps" books, Disney's *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* and more *Star Wars* and *Star Trek* than any human being could reasonably be expected to keep track of are set to roll off assembly lines.

The American toy industry reached \$20 billion in retail sales last year, up nearly seven percent, according to Toy Manufacturers of America (TMA), the trade organization that sponsors the fair. Toy Fair is not a lighthearted event; it's serious business.

The action-figure market is particularly dependent on the line.

Some 20,000 buyers from 99 countries attended during its 10 days, and that isn't counting the manufacturers, inventors and business hopefuls of all kinds, or the legions of actors hired to demonstrate toys. There were 1,619 toymakers exhibiting. Donna Hanover Giuliani, the mayor's wife, said in her official greeting that the event would pour \$175 million into the city.

Galoo is still raking in the profits from Sky Dancer, a wispy-looking plastic thing that shoots into the air when you pull a string. She flew out of stores last year, and so has spawned new adjuncts - a smaller one called Fairy Flyer and a bigger one called Flying Princess, as well as books, pets and carousels to hold them all.

The tie-in factor is now so established that major buyers will hardly even look at something that doesn't have an external constellation of promotion (i.e.,

brainwashing) possibilities.

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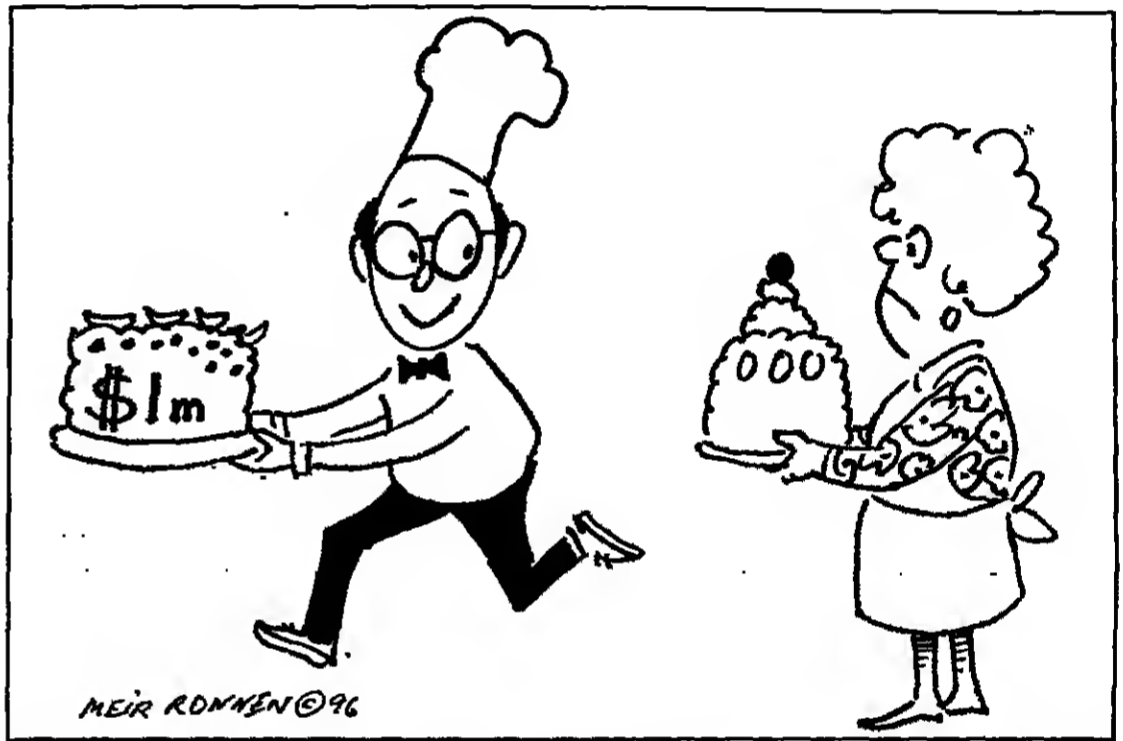
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The million-dollar chocolate cake

A chocolate-cake-baking dad from the San Francisco area, who began enterprising cooking contests after his divorce, became the first man ever to win the grand prize at the Pillsbury bake-off - a bounty that reached a record \$1 million this year.



Kurt Wait, a 43-year-old business analyst from Redwood City, California, and the single father of an eight-year-old son, was chosen from among 100 finalists for the top award in the Super Bowl of amateur cooking fests.

A cherub-faced, bespectacled man who does sales planning for a division of Pacific Bell, Wait flashed a big smile as his macadamia fudge torte was proclaimed a \$1 million recipe on national TV.

Judges said Wait's dessert - a 460-calorie-per-serving dentist's nightmare involving devil's food cake mix, canned sliced pears, sweetened condensed milk, chocolate chips and butterscotch-caramel-fudge topping - was picked out almost immediately as a top contender. Several compared it to the legendary tunnel-of-fudge cake of 1966.

Part kitsch, part chemistry, part king-sized publicity stunt, the 47-year-old bake-off has become an American institution. Every two years, 100 amateur cooks march into a ballroom full of kitchenettes to whip up a cookbook full of recipes using products manufactured by Pillsbury and its various subsidiaries.

The competition, which gener-

ates tens of thousands of entries each time it is held, is believed to cost Pillsbury about \$2 million a pop. Company officials say it more than pays for itself in free publicity, and offers the company an accurate cross sample of food trends in American suburbs and small towns.

"I KIND OF have to get over the shock of this," said Wait, who was one of 10 men in the finals. He said he taught himself to cook in college and later honed his craft

by reworking recipes from *Bon Appetit* magazine. In his 20s, he said, he cooked for a houseful of male roommates, and during his marriage, he cooked the family meals.

After his divorce, he said, he found himself in the kitchen more often, "because I had so much time on my hands." He won the Gilroy Garlic Festival with a savory shortcake with garlic and tomato salsa. Since then, he estimates he has entered "a couple dozen" of contests.

Wait said that the Pillsbury prize - which he will take in the form of a \$50,000-a-year annuity over 20 years - probably won't induce him to quit his job.

"Knowing Kurt, I suspect he'll be pretty prudent," added his boss, Leslie Sandberg, who described him as a "conservative, balanced and straightforward" person who would probably invest most of his money in a college fund, and "maybe buy a few new pots and pans."

(Los Angeles Times)

BARGAIN BASEMENT

OFFERS

BATHROOM SCALE - Counselor, in pounds, new, NIS 30, 02-6355598.

ELECTRIC FOOT MASSAGER - new, NIS 150, 02-6355598.

COMPRESSOR used 5 years, for 1 1/2 ton air conditioner, NIS 200, 03-6355598.

LADIES' WAISTCOAT - new, size 18, NIS 100; man's suit, large, NIS 150; raincoat, large, NIS 50, 09-453534, after 8 p.m.

FORMICA CABINETS - new, perfect condition, one 75x63cm, two doors, one 88x47cm, one door, 03-5059171.

GAME BOY - almost new and with many games, NIS 250, 09-580447, ask for Konstantine.

VELVET JACKET - navy blue, very smart, size 12-14, NIS 100, 09-406268, even.

ROLLER BLADES - 4 wheels, size 38, NIS 95; surfboard, for ages 8-10, NIS 60, 09-912790.

FRAMED PRESSED FLOWER - Victorian, NIS 300, Yosef, 08-232771.

FURNITURE SET - sofa, investeat, chair, coffee table - OK condition, NIS 100; Delonghi mini-oven, practically new, NIS 200, 03-5240032.

LEGENDS OF JERUSALEM - Zev Vilgus, NIS 25; *Friday Nights*, Jewish Chronicle Anthology 1841-1971; *Strategy of Freedom*, by Harold Lasky, autographed, NIS 25, 04-242207.

BEDSPREAD - crocheted, hand-made, new, cream, NIS 300, 09-452878, evenings.

GIRLS' CLOTHES - for summer, new US-made (not barred), flower-print dress (size 16), NIS 60; sundress (size 14), NIS 60; blue skirt (size 8), NIS 40; 4 pairs new panties, NIS 10; 2 used flower-print dresses (size 14) NIS 40, (size 16) NIS 20, 02-789712, NS.

TODDLER'S TABLE & CHAIRS - NIS 30; toys: Barbie and clothes, NIS 25 each; puzzles, sprograph and more, NIS 5 each, 02-722770.

VACUUM CLEANER - Hoover Powerglide 1100, needs repair, or for parts, NIS 70; Sony TC 127 tape deck, needs slight repair, NIS 100, 02-831626.

ROTATING FAN - 14 in., NIS 60; bookcase, 34x42 in., NIS 90; rolling storage cabinet, 36x31 in., NIS 150, 02-257483.

TV - NIS 300, 02-738955.

BAR-MITZVA SUIT - UK-made, mint condition, greenish gray, light-weight, size 40 (UK 30), NIS 250; keep-fit video cassette, NIS 50, 02-660443.

INFANT/TODDLER CAR SEAT - Century, NIS 100; Fisher Price portable playpen, NIS 100; bicycle, NIS 75, 02-664925.

ELECTRIC TYPEWRITER - Coronamatic 2200, free to charitable organization, 02-734136.

TRANSFORMER - 1000 W, 220/110, NIS 150, 02-866757.

DESK - two drawers, clean condition, cream color, 1.2 wide, 55 cm deep, NIS 275, 02-714698, NS.

ANSWERING MACHINE - General Electric, with time/date stamp, beeperless, new, NIS 240, Marc, 052-602387.

SINGLE YOUTH BED - NIS 150; men's suit, nearly new, medium size, NIS 150, 02-6511763, NS.

EVENING BAG - new, beautiful purple, marble effect, NIS 100, 02-6518001, NS.

END TABLE - solid wood, beautiful formica finish, 71 x 55 cm., NIS 150, 02-834084, NS.

DINETTE TABLE - seats up to 10, good condition, NIS 300, 02-736502.

ANSWERING MACHINE - Sanyo, hi-tech, with remote control, adapter, NIS 300 (flexible), Eliav, 02-732862.

DISHWASHER - big, NIS 300, 02-817305.

COLOR TELEVISION - Toshiba, 25 in., PAL color system, NIS 300, 02-556781.

SEWING MACHINE - electric, old but in good working order, basic, NIS 300, 02-355973.

3-SPEED BICYCLE - 24" wheels, NIS 175; child's sleeping bag, feather filled, 135 cm length, NIS 50, 02-438159.

SONY PORTABLE COLOR TV - new, very compact, good for travel/camping, 220 V., NIS 300, 02-790701.

SHORT WAVE RADIO - 12 bands, SW-7600, Sony dual voltage, NIS 300, Drona, 02-784840.

IBM SELECTRIC TYPEWRITER - NIS 300, 02-814697.

BILL BLASS WINTER COAT - women's long, 100% down, charcoal gray, never worn, small, NIS 300, 02-362163, NS.

2 SEMI-ARMCHAIRS - velvet, beige covering, NIS 250; books in English, German and French, NIS 50, 02-635827.

HI-FI STEREO - record player, NIS 300, 02-430498.

SMITH CORONA ELECTRA 220 - electric typewriter with accessories, NIS 300, 02-323494, NS.

EDUCATIONAL ELECTRONIC GAME - 30 activities: teach math, geography, spelling, etc., new in box, NIS 250; Gameboy diskens, NIS 40, 02-6511763, NS.

'VICTORIA' MAGAZINE - NIS 6 each, less for the lot, 02-9941965, 02-820248.

CURTAINS - 3 big, beige panels, NIS 100, 02-733262, NS.

CHEST - 5 drawers, 79x42x94 cm., medium brown, NIS 50; Parker Brothers board game "Sovory", unopened, NIS 30, 02-9931682.

SMALL LAMP - NIS 30; chest of drawers, NIS 95; kettle, NIS 100; fan heater, NIS 75, 02-738955.

MATTRESS - hard, sandwich foam rubber, thick, new, 190x90x18 cm, NIS 250, 02-617827.

AMERICAN LOUNGER - RECLINER - brown tweed, excellent condition, NIS 300, 02-666442.

PEN AND PENCIL SET - Cross, 10-karat gold filled, new, original box, NIS 300, 02-810256.

COIN COLLECTORS! - two Charles & Diana commemorative crowns, historic value, NIS 150 o.b.a., 02-820248.

LADIES' REMINGTON ELECTRIC SHAVER - brand new, rechargeable, cordless, can be used dry or wet, NIS 120, 02-9931302, NS.

SINGLE BED - excellent condition, with new mattress, NIS 300, 02-633266.

BLACK LEATHER SKIRT - worn once only, size 44 (14), NIS 200, Naomi, 02-9933516.

DARK Pinstripe SUIT - new, American, 38, NIS 300 o.b.a., 02-423784, NS.

WOMEN'S SHOES - sizes 11 and 12, NIS 55; green nylon padded jack-

et, very warm, NIS 165, 02-6513654.

2 LARGE SOFAS - good quality but need upholstery, NIS 400 o.b.a., 02-866754.

SOFA BED - good condition, NIS 300, 02-634720.

LARGE MIRROR - with French Provincial frame, NIS 100, 02-241225, NS.

KITCHEN CABINETS - new, white, 100x75x50, NIS 300, 02-993477, NS.

SONY CAMCORDER BATTERY CHARGER - and 3-hour (NP 77) battery, and carrying case, NIS 250, 02-737378.

VACUUM CLEANER - AEG, 1100 W, NIS 300, 02-6514208, NS.

CHILD'S CLOTHES CUPBOARD - 8 doors, 6 drawers, light walnut finish, good condition, 165x240x60, NIS 300, Sarah, 02-787211, afternoon or eve., NS.

CASIO 32K DIGITAL DIARY - SF-4300, NIS 190; Casin Data Bank DC

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Not just bums

THAT an Israeli Arab was involved in smuggling a suicide bomber from Gaza to Dizengoff Center on Monday should most emphatically not reflect on the Arab citizens of this country. Extrapolating and generalizing charges of culpability is a symptom of bigotry which has no place in a democratic society.

But it is, undeniably, a little irritating that many of the politicians and intellectuals who now inveigh against such generalizations seem to have forgotten that only four months ago they named opposition leaders as participants in Yitzhak Rabin's assassination, and demanded that the religious Zionist camp do penance for the action of his murderer.

Whether this particular Israeli Arab knowingly collaborated in a heinous crime is for the courts to decide. But, regardless of his role, it would be a mistake to ignore the fact that Islamic fanaticism does not stop at the Green Line. The reach and influence of militant fundamentalism knows no borders, nor is it dependent on economic conditions. Islamic fanatics who are Israeli citizens murdered IDF soldiers during the intifada, and wealthy Islamic fanatics, comfortably situated in the US and Britain, have supported Hamas and Islamic Jihad with generous financial contributions. One such Arab-American fanatic ran his car into a crowd waiting for a bus in Jerusalem only last week, killing a woman and injuring 20. That, too, was a suicide attack.

There is no reason to believe that even if a Palestinian state is established in the territories,

the fundamentalist gospel will cease to appeal. On the contrary. The more Israel withdraws and the more vulnerable it seems, the more realistic the goal of eliminating Jewish sovereignty will appear. And since Israeli Arabs are not immune to the blandishments of this gospel, talk of separation between Israel and the Palestinians is a futile exercise. It cannot be done.

Nor is the other panacea often offered at times like these - economic betterment - any more realistic, not only because it is questionable that a dramatic improvement in the Arab standard of living can be achieved, but because there is no reason to believe that such improvement will eliminate fundamentalist militancy.

In his television interview yesterday, Prime Minister Shimon Peres referred to the bomber as "a hum." Such epithets may reflect Peres's understandable frustration and rage at the political impact of the bombings. But it is a grave error to underestimate the passion, dedication and convictions of those ready to sacrifice their lives for their cause.

To Westerners this cause is monstrous and revolting, and the promise of instant paradise where 72 noble women cater to the martyr's every wish seems less than pristine idealism. But the willingness to make the ultimate sacrifice is there, and the havoc it can create is staggering. What Israel and the Western world are facing is not a tiny group of bums, but a powerful movement with mass appeal. And if it is to be defeated, as it must, it should be taken seriously by Israel and the whole Western world.

China turns bully

CHINA appears to be indulging in strange acts of sheer arrogance that would seem to indicate it is getting too big for its pseudo-communist boots. Beijing's announcement that it is to conduct surface-to-surface missile tests with impact points close to Taiwan's two major ports is irresponsible bullying of the worst sort, displaying the same mentality as Fidel Castro's use of MiG fighters against unarmed, light civilian aircraft last week. The intrepidity of China's hidebound leaders is such that they fail to take seriously US disquiet over threats of aggression against Taiwan. China should be aware that in an election year, no US administration is going to be less hawkish than the one bidding to be its successor.

China's habit of throwing its weight around has become an increasing irritation on the world scene. On Hong Kong, not content with achieving British agreement to a smooth handover of the colony in 1997, Beijing insists on beating the drum about dismantling the state's elected legislature and scrapping a human rights law when it takes over. While greedy to annex Hong Kong's wealth and status, mainland Chinese seem oblivious to the fact that they are daily undermining the business and investor confidence that alone makes Hong Kong what it is.

Instead of being all smiles over a friendly treaty that returns the British colony without a fight or civil war, the Chinese "carp and criticize, grumble of 'leniency,' and come in and out of the territory grim-faced, refusing to meet the governor or ordinary people," as a Hong Kong newspaper succinctly put it yesterday, adding: "If only the Chinese leadership had an instinct

for public relations." Hong Kong, with more than six million people, has been under British rule for 150 years and was the first and greatest Asian economic success story. A cheerfully business-obsessed people, the Hong Kong Chinese must be tempted to yell "lighten up" at the dour new lords and masters coming their way. Unfortunately, the missile boat appears to remain China's idea of a sense of humor, as its ridiculous attempts to intimidate Taiwan's March elections show.

The only true humor for China-watchers may have emerged from this week's meeting of the National People's Congress. Nothing demonstrated the bankruptcy of the communist system more than this pathetic effort to blend Western-style techno-jargon with cobweb-encrusted Marxist clichés. The result was a "vision" of a market-driven, rosy, socialist heaven held together by dictum and discipline. Eyes held together on far horizons, but blind to the rampant corruption under the carpets of paradise.

Premier Li Peng led the chants in favor of the "socialist market economy" and deplored "unwise" US moves on China and the demon Taiwan. Inevitable new five-year and 15-year plans promised endless development, reform, new technology, modern farms, open highways to the world, not to mention some more incomprehensible benefits such as "wielding macro-economic control" and "spiritual civilization".

Increasingly aggressive behavior abroad and continuing repression under a tissue of falsehoods at home does not augur well for the golden future of reform the optimists have been suggesting China will ride into the next century.



Clutching at straws

The waffling decisions taken by Prime Minister Peres in the wake of the Purim massacre in Tel Aviv have been curdled by highly experienced anti-terrorist experts as "too little and too late."

These experts contemptuously compare Peres's cosmetic changes to "trying to save a man who is bleeding to death by putting a hand-aid on his thumb."

This is what Rafi Eitan, an ex-Mossad commander who served as anti-terrorist adviser to three prime ministers - Menachem Begin, Yitzhak Shamir, and Peres - has to say: "The Oslo accords were fatally flawed at the outset. They couldn't work, didn't work, and never will work."

"Signing a treaty with a mafia bandit like Yasser Arafat is like relying on a solemn contract with the chief of the Columbian drug barons."

Eitan is "confident that Ami Ayalon is already doing his best as GSS boss. What is the point of him now heading an inter-agency task force? From my own experience, such a role is limited. Only the army high command can wage the all-out war we are facing today."

Eitan cited the story of the idiot who threw a heavy stone into a well. Not even seven sages could find a way to draw water.

Many boulders have been lowered into Israel's precious well in the past few years. The biggest of all has been the Rabin-Peres boulder labeled "Let Arafat fight our enemies for us."

Peres is a smart politician. Yet as he spoke on TV on Monday night, he must surely have realized that he was like a drowning person clutching at straws. He strained even his own incredulity when he spoke about Arafat arresting Hamas members.

How many times can he use this line, knowing that the Hamas men will be quietly released within a short time? Two hundred and twenty dead and 700 injured since the signing of the Oslo accords has been a heavy price to pay for such folly.

"Certainly none of the terrorist murderers will ever be handed over to Israel," said an intelligence source. The reason was spelt out recently by Gideon Ezra, a former GSS deputy head. "It is

URI DAN DENNIS EISENBERG

known that fully 30 percent of the Arab population supports Hamas," Ezra said. Arafat's history of survival in the splintered Palestinian terrorist movement has always depended on his skill in balancing one group against another. For him to oppose Hamas openly - except when addressing foreign journalists, and

Peres's half-hearted war against Hamas terror won't do

some Israeli ones - would mean civil war. Arafat reveals his true feelings repeatedly when he lauds the killers of Jews as heroes and refers to suicide bombers as martyrs.

Peres only needs to listen to King Hussein, reportedly a very worried man, to understand the gravity of the situation.

Hussein realizes that Hamas supporters in his own kingdom are greatly encouraged by the growing success of their fellow fundamentalists across the Jordan river, and knows that unless Hamas's burgeoning activities in Israeli are curbed the peace treaty between Amman and Jerusalem could collapse.

THE foundations of the entire Labor movement are being shaken by the wave of Hamas terror.

During the Lebanon war Labor politicians did all they could to sabotage the battle to wipe out the PLO terrorist state-in-the-making. Labor's battle cry was peace with our neighbors, not war.

This was the backbone of Labor policy, especially when Rabin and Peres were returned to power in 1992. Driven by the false premise of a "New Middle East," their envoys met clandestinely with Arafat, something even the US government had refused to do. Tremendous sacrifices were made in chasing this chimera by handing over not only Jericho and Gaza to Arafat, but also some 30

percent of Judea and Samaria. Arafat was allowed to arm and train 50,000 police, special agents, and others. And it was under their benign protection that Hamas created the infrastructure needed to establish the vast terrorist network which has been murdering Israelis, particularly during these past two weeks.

Peres himself admits that the Oslo peace process is dead when he talks about "waging war" against Israel's enemies. The wheel has turned full circle for the false messiah of peace at any price.

He will surely know that the war he has now launched against Hamas is an outcome of the delusion that one of the country's greatest enemies, Yasser Arafat, notorious killer of Jews, can be entrusted with protecting them.

This is the same Arafat who has failed to modify a single word of 30 out of 33 clauses of his PLO Charter that call for the destruction of Israel and the exiling most of its Jews.

Peres as Labor leader is now reaping the bitter fruits of promoting a false concept of peace, and trying to brainwash the country into believing in it. He has launched a half-hearted war, and it isn't good enough.

The war against terror can only be won by the full-scale involvement of the army and the entire intelligence community. It must be a 100-percent effort.

The country cannot afford to lose any wars, and this war is no different.

The advice of every past intelligence professional we have spoken to is that the GSS must recreate its traditional informer network in the areas under Arafat's rule as fast as it can. It won't be easy, for many of Palestinians informers who trusted the Israelis to protect them have been "burned."

In this way they will gain information in real time, and won't need to face the humiliation of Arafat's security chiefs mocking them as they fruitlessly try to carry out their task.

The writers are authors of 'The Mossad: Secrets of the Israeli Secret Service and other books on the Middle East.'

Mob rule

LARRY DERFNER

If I see another solemn-faced TV reporter standing outside Dizengoff Center talking about the "pain and rage" of the crowd, I think I'm going to bust. I've never seen such high-spirited people. Wait - yes I have. At a soccer game.

That's what's happening at Dizengoff. The mobs are chanting the same chants and singing the same anthems as they do at the soccer matches. They just substitute some names and phrases; the melodies and rhythms are the same.

Instead of serenading the player who's just scored a goal, they're singing, "Baruch Goldstein, Baruch Goldstein, there's no one like you in the world..."

They're laughing, they're jumping up and down. They're bouncing against their squealing girlfriends. "He's a traitor, he's a traitor," they sing. They mean Shimon Peres, of course.

There are some interesting new posters to be seen. A couple of merry demonstrators hold up sheets of paper showing Peres caricatured as a skull on crossbones, with blood dripping out of his eyes and mouth. The caption reads, "Traitor." Remind you of anything?

I don't want to give the idea that all the people gathering outside Dizengoff Center are like this. There are many teenagers sitting quietly on the sidewalks next to the memorial candles.

Many adults are standing silently, seriously. They look like mourners. They are not having a good time.

But these people who truly are in pain, and who may be raging inside, are the minority. On the night after the bombing, the great majority of the crowd were teenage soccer hooligans. Theirs were the only voices to be heard. They ruled the street.

IN THE crowd that gathered immediately after the bombing, there were hooligans of all ages. Some people who started out as raging but still rational individuals got caught up in the frenzy.

One man was shouting abuse at the government. "They don't give a damn about us," Peres does, what Arafat tells him, to do" and so on. A little later I saw him standing on a car, chanting with the crowd, "Death to the Arabs." He had a crazy little smile at the corners of his mouth.

Of all the chants, that one is probably the most popular. Those who chanted it got their wish: One of the 18 people killed on the Jerusalem bus Sunday

I was outside Dizengoff Center. But I felt like I was at a soccer game

morning was an Arab, as were two of the four Israeli soldiers killed by Hizbullah Monday night.

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The Jerusalem
Mob
rule
LARRY DERRIN

THE JERUSALEM
POST

TRAVELER

THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 1996

ADVENTURES THAT CLICK

By Judi Dash

The gorilla eyed us from a clump of bamboo branches, his dark fur blending with the deep shadows of the dense green forest canopy. This was a photographer's nightmare: Dark animal, dark background, no contrast.

Following the advice of our tour guide, I increased my camera's lens aperture (thus diminishing the depth of field to highlight the animal and blur-out the foliage), and waited for the gorilla to turn toward the sun. The rays made his fur glisten and caught a lively glint in his eye. The result was a fine portrait that made me feel like a pro.

At the time, however, I was just an amateur camera buff who had chosen a photographic tour on Africa so I would be in a supportive environment for indulging my hobby. I had spent too many vacations watching great photographic opportunities pass me by, like when my tour bus sped past captivating scenes or the group leader hurried us off to the next attraction just when the light was getting perfect. This time, I had decided, I would take a trip where photography was given paramount consideration and an expert was on hand to help me capture trophy shots.

This time I would take a trip where photography was given paramount consideration and an expert was on hand to help me capture trophy shots.

Photo tours, where seasoned photographers guide small groups of shutterbugs on nature and cultural expeditions, have proliferated along with the surge in sophisticated cameras that anyone can operate. Whether using a tiny point-and-shoot with a built-in flash and zoom, or a SLR with interchangeable lenses, any aficionado can benefit from on-the-spot advice from an expert in the field.

Following are some innovative photo tours from top operators. Others can be found in the back pages of magazines such as *Outdoor Photographer*, *Outside* or *Escape*, all available at newsstands.

WESTERN WILDERNESS

Close-Up Expeditions owner Don Lyons has been running world-wide photo tours since 1979—they focus on small group size, an average of eight participants per trip. As a bonus, after each trip,



participants receive field notes on the trip, with detailed accounts of each day's activities and subjects, including scientific names of plants and animals. Guests also participate in a post-trip round-robin, where participants' slides are rotated by mail among the group members so they can see trip-mates' results.

Among some 25 trips the California company has scheduled for 1996 are two North American stand-outs: an April exploration of the Southwest's lake, canyon and desert country starts in Phoenix and moves on to the Sonoran Desert, lakes Powell and Mead, and the Grand Canyon—a landscape photographer's dream. Brenda Tharp, a veteran photo workshop teacher, is slated to lead the 10-day trip.

In July, a 21-day trip through the Pacific Northwest will take in the Oregon Coast, the Olympic and Cascade mountains, Crater Lake—a cool antidote to the heat of summer. The trip will be led by Close-Up owner Lyons and Nick Nicholson, a long-time nature photographer and tour leader.

Victor Emanuel Nature Tours' April birding expeditions through South Florida offer ornithology aficionados an opportunity to snap rare species while making major swides in their bird checklist—a tough specialty requiring both a thorough understanding of the species and expert technical skills. Anyone who has tried to photograph birds on the wing and wound up with frame after frame of little dark blurs will appreciate his expertise.

The trip covers a wide variety of prime birding habitats, including Lake Okechobee, the Florida Keys, the Everglades, Corkscrew Swamp and Sanibel Island's Ding Darling National Wildlife Reserve. A word of caution: This trip is for dedicated bird-watchers only. You'll spend hours on the chase, with binoculars glued to your eyeballs, and trip-mates ticking off their previous birding triumphs.

Continued on page 2

Above: Vietnamese children look curiously at the lens.

Left: Wilderness Travel's Photo Seminar and Cruise in Ecuador provides a chance to learn from three of the world's top outdoor photographers.

Photos by Judi Dash

Adventures From page 1

INDIAN MARKETS AND ISLANDS OF ECUADOR, PERU'S INCA TRAIL

You would be hard-pressed to find a more impressive trio of outdoor photographers than Galen Rowell, Frans Lanting and Robert Holmes.

Rowell is America's foremost adventure and wilderness photographer. Lanting is widely considered the world's best nature photographer, and Holmes is a much-published pro at landscape and cultural shots.

This is a double-dip of an opportunity: Three days of lectures and field work under the tutelage of the best of the best will be followed by a photography cruise in the wildlife-rich Galapagos Islands with Rowell or Lanting, or a trek up Peru's Inca Trail to Machu Picchu with Holmes.

MARTHA'S VINEYARD, OAXACA, TUSCANY

Periodically, the Maine Photo Workshops, one of the country's top photography schools, ventures beyond its base in sleepy coastal Rockport, Maine, to explore other horizons and cultures.

In June, Nevada Weir will run a one-week photo workshop/tour on adventure travel photography. Taking day-trips—and one overnight excursion—from Santa Fe, Weir combines tips on action shots with discussions on approaching and photographing people of different cultures and countries.

Also that month, a two-week trip is planned to Oaxaca, Mexico, famous for its colonial architecture and skilled Indian craftsmen who turn out some of Latin America's best tapestries, rugs, pottery, masks and wood sculptures.

In September, Alison Shaw, the Martha's Vineyard Gazette's staff photographer for 20 years, will run a one-week workshop/tour of her island off Cape Cod, Massachusetts. The emphasis will be on architecture, seascapes, and the unique island personality for which this classy celebrity retreat is famous.

REMOTE VISTAS

Mountain Travel/Sobek's "Visual Journeys" give camera buffs the opportunity to explore some of the world's most photographic destinations with two of the country's best women photographers, Nevada Weir and Lisi Dennis.

Weir, the country's top female adventure photographer, will run exploratory expeditions to Papua New Guinea and Irian Jaya (April) and Northern Vietnam (November).

Participants will visit remote villages where few outsiders have been, thus experiencing the excite-

ment—but also possibly the uncertainties—of being first.

Dennis, a veteran photo-tour leader and columnist for Outdoor Photographer Magazine, will lead cultural and arts explorations of Turkey (April), Morocco (May), and Bali/Indonesia (October). They will be more comfortable and less physically demanding than Weir's, with an emphasis on finding the lesser-known pockets of popular tourist destinations.

PUEBLOS AND PEOPLES

The Santa Fe Photo Workshop occupies an enviable proximity to some of the country's most dramatic landscapes, unusual architecture and diverse ethnic groups.

Passage Through New Mexico is a combination workshop/photo tour, with field trips out of the Santa Fe base to Indian pueblos, towering cliff dwellings, Hispanic communities and churches, and vast mountain vistas.

In June, Nevada Weir will run a one-week photo workshop/tour on adventure travel photography. Taking day-trips—and one overnight excursion—from Santa Fe, Weir combines tips on action shots with discussions on approaching and photographing people of different cultures and countries.

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IRISH CULTURE

Photographer Ron Rosenstock has been leading photographic and cultural excursions through Ireland for 20 years. In 1996, he will guide eight photo tours of the western part of the island through Voyagers International Photo Tours.

Based at Rosenstock's country estate on the shores of Clew Bay in County Mayo, participants explore tiny villages, hidden beaches, ancient abbeys, and druid woods off the beaten tourist path.

Emphasis is on meeting and mingling with the people, with plenty of "research" in Irish pubs and participation in the local music scene.

GORILLAS OF UGANDA

Since the tragic devastation of Rwanda, gorilla-seekers have been flocking to Uganda to see the apes in their mountain jungle habitat.

Natural Habitat Adventures, which specializes in wildlife trips worldwide, runs several excursions to Uganda. A special September photo tour to the country will be led by Joe McDonald, a 25-year veteran outdoor photographer, who has written several books on wildlife and nature photography.

The photo trip will provide more time with the gorillas than standard tours (four visits instead of the usual one or two) and extensive coaching from McDonald on photographing the apes in their problematic surroundings.

Judi Dash is a freelance writer in Ohio.

SNAPSHOT

Ecuador's Otavalo Indian Market

By Judith Morgan

Copley News Service

As I pushed through the throngs at the Saturday Otavalo Indian Market in Ecuador's northern highlands, there was a plucking at



A young salesgirl offers her wares at the Otavalo Indian Market in Ecuador.

Photo by Judith Morgan

my sleeve, a tug that set off inner alarms about the dangers of pickpockets.

Turning defensively, I saw a wrinkled, gray-haired Indian woman in a fedora, an indigo-blue skirt, a white embroidered blouse with puffy sleeves and multiple strands of tiny gold beads. Her feet were covered in indigo cloth-and-rope sandals, tied at the ankle.

She was, perhaps, four feet tall and leaning on a walking stick. The tug at my elbow was merely a signal that she wanted to pass.

From grandmothers to toddlers, the Otavalo females dress alike: a long, sashed blue skirt over a frilly white blouse and underskirt. The pulled-back plaited hair, the sandals and the golden beads which are really made of crystals.

When I first saw families walking along the roadside, I was reminded of those look-alike wooden Russian dolls that nest inside of one another.

The Otavalo Indian Market, a two-hour drive north of Quito, is said to be the largest and liveliest in South America.

While a small market is held there every day, the Saturday market spills over a dozen blocks on three parallel streets around Calle Sucre. Regular shops and apartments are hidden behind makeshift stalls that sell baskets and leather goods, animals and housewares, and, most notably, an enormous selection of the distinctive Otavalo weavings.

The Saturday market is as colorful as a carnival, and yet the famed textiles section remains strangely hushed. Footsteps are muffled by the walls of rugs. The fragrance of oranges, mangoes and ripe cherimoyas blends with the charcoal smell of cooking fires. Tiny women and girls sit chatting and threading needles near heaps of woven bags, wall hangings, pillow covers, shawls, ponchos and vests.

Hundreds of stalls are hung with handsome woolen rugs of geometric patterns—four or five rugs linked together by white fringe. Traditional patterns include stylized birds and fish, and Indian women in shawls and derbies, usually seated and viewed from the back.

The work is of superb quality; the Otavaleños sell extensively in foreign markets. Once a deal is made—and bargaining is minimal because the prices are so low—the weaver pulls out long, slim silver shears and snips through the threads that attach one rug to the next.

The bus ride from Quito, at an elevation of 9,300 feet, is reminiscent of an exhilarating trip through the Kenyan highlands; a climb over mossy green hills, past fields of quinoa and through alleys of acacia and eucalyptus, and then sheer drops of 3,000 feet to cross a river before climbing again. Clouds part over mountains to reveal the slash of a rainbow or the glimmer of snow-crowned volcanoes. Lakes shimmer in the distance. Terraced slopes look like patchwork quilts of hunter green, amber and honey gold.

Along the way there are villages that specialize in woodcarving (San Antonio de Ibarra), leather work (Cotacachi) and colorful bread-dough figurines (Calderon).

The journey itself is a splendid reason for going to Otavalo; the abundance of goods and the market's atmosphere are others.

Journalist and author Judith Morgan has written offbeat weekly travel columns since 1975.

Photo Expeditions

Prices are per person double occupancy and do not include airfare. Some or all hotel nights and meals may also be extra.

Close-Up Expedition; (001) 510/654-1548, 858 56th Street, Oakland, California 94608. 10-day Red Rocks, Blue Water trip through the Southwest departs April 1. Price: About \$2,000 (not yet determined). 21-day Pacific Northwest trip through Oregon and Washington departs July 8. Price: \$3,638.

Maine Photo Workshops, (001) 207/236-8581, 2 Central Street, Rockport, Maine 04856. Two-week trip to Tuscany region of Italy departs June 29. Price: \$2,495. Two-week trip to Oaxaca, Mexico, scheduled to depart in June, but date not set. Price: \$890. One-

week trip to Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts, runs in September, date not set. Price: \$695.

Mountain Travel/Sobek, (001) 510/527-8100, 6420 Fairmount Avenue, El Cerrito, California 94530. 17-day Visual Journey to Papua New Guinea departs April 5. Price: \$3,790. 17-day trip to Northern Vietnam starts November 9. 17-day tour to Turkey departs April 12. Price: \$3,490; 15-day trip to Morocco starts May 4. Price: \$3,490. 17-day trip to Indonesia departs Oct. 11. Price: \$3,450.

Natural Habitat Adventures, (001) 303/449-3711, 2945 Center Green Court, Suite H, Boulder, Colorado 80301. 11-day Primate Watch in Uganda with Joe McDonald departs September 2. Price: \$4,795.

Santa Fe Photo Workshops, (001) 505/983-1400, P.O. Box 9916, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504. One-week Passages Through New Mexico workshop/tour starts June 16 and September 22. Price: \$645. One-week program in Adventure Travel Photography starts

June 16. Price: \$695.

Victor Emanuel Nature Tours, (001) 512/328-5221, P.O. Box 33008, Austin, Texas 78764. Nine-day birding tour through south Florida departs April 17. Price: \$1,545.

Voyagers International Photo Tours, (001) 607/257-3091, P.O. Box 915, Ithaca, New York 14851. 12-day Ireland tours depart April 23, May 5 and 29, June 22, July 15, August 9, September 2, and October 8. Price: \$1,995.

Wilderness Travel, (001) 510-548-0420, 801 Allison Way, Berkeley, California 94710.

Photography with the Masters Workshop and Field sessions in Otavalo, Ecuador runs May 4-7. Follow-up Galapagos cruise with Galen Rowell runs May 8-15, with Frans Lanting, May 16. Price for workshop and cruise: \$3,095. Follow-up Inca Trail to Machu Picchu, Peru, trek with Robert Holmes runs May 8-18. Price for workshop and trek: \$2,695.



A native woman at the colorful Indian Market at Otavalo, Ecuador.

Photo by Judi Dash

ANCIENT CHILE

Diverse natural beauty is the starting attraction of Nature Expeditions International's "Best of Chile Expedition," departing March 2, 1996. The itinerary takes participants from the cosmopolitan center of Santiago to the fjords of Patagonia.

Other highlights of the 16-day journey include exploring Lake Umanitutu and the Orsono Volcano region, visiting the Balmaceda and Serrano glaciers and Torres Del Paine National Park. Participants can extend their South American tour with a seven-day trip to Easter Island, located 2,300 miles west of the Chilean coast.

Land cost for the "Best of Chile" is \$3,499 per person, double occupancy. PFI: NEI, P.O. Box 11496, Eugene, Oregon 97440.

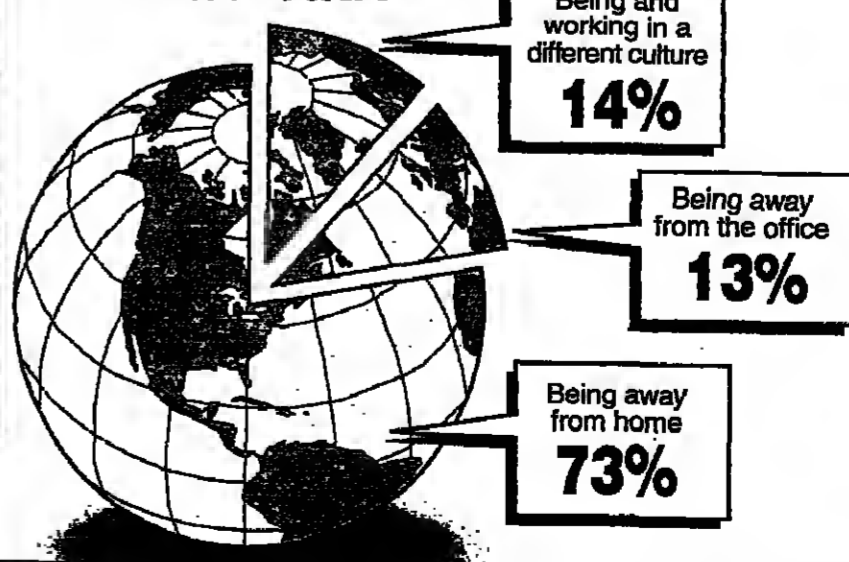
GOLF IN MEXICO

MasterCard Casa Magna Puerto Vallarta in Mexico is offering a "Mexico Golf Tour" through March 1996, that offers golfers a daily dose of their favorite sport.

Priced at \$139 per night for one golfer or \$289 per night for two golfers, the package includes a daily round of golf at the exclusive Marina Vallarta Golf Club, daily breakfast, airport transfers, a bucket of range balls, complimentary storage of golf equipment, and complimentary daily breakfast.

For more information, contact Casa Magna Resort, (001) 52-312-2996, 3600 Calle de Marina #5, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico 48300.

What do you like least about travel abroad?

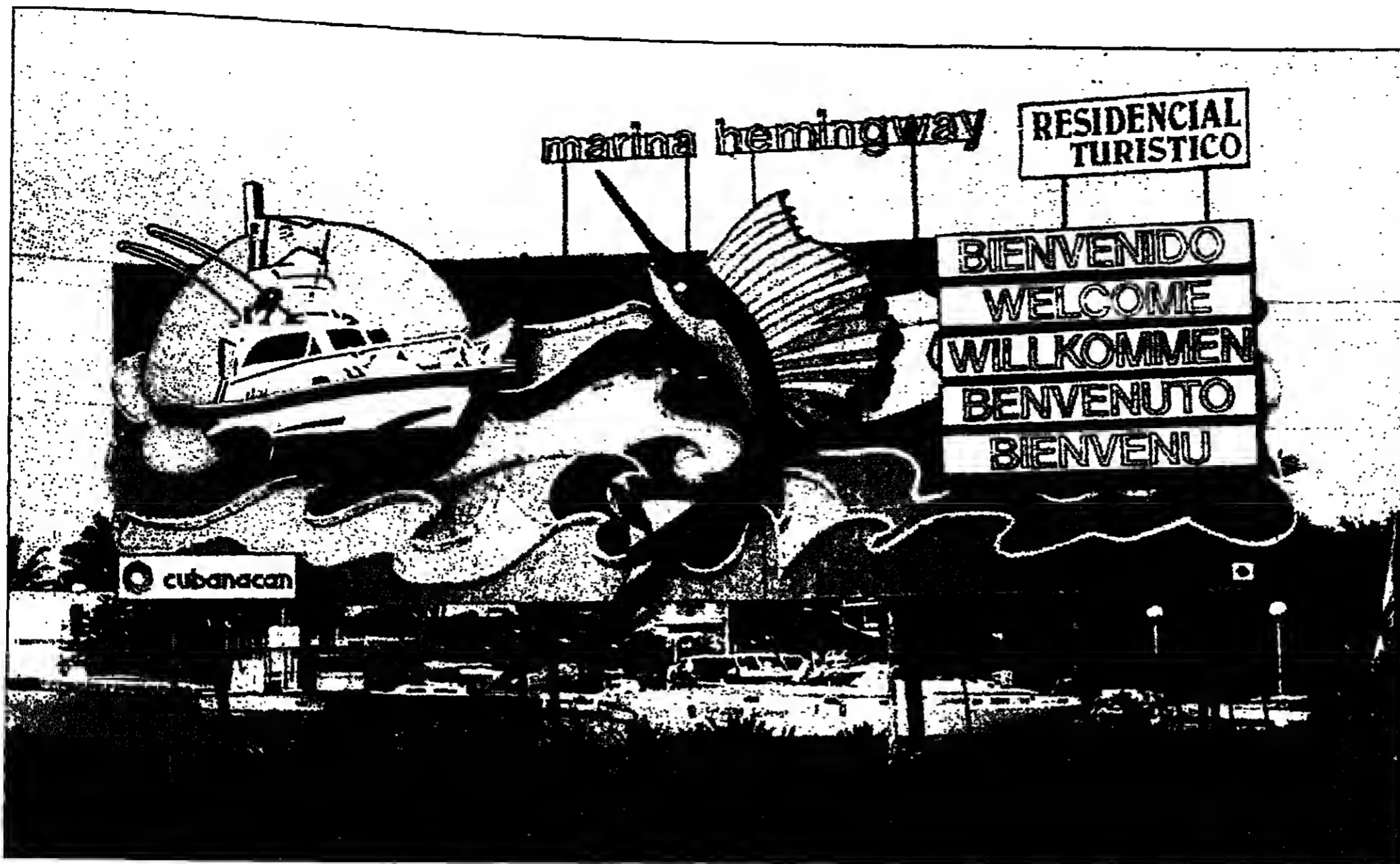


SOURCE: Hilton International

Copley News Service/Marshall Ramsey

Vertical sidebar on the right edge of the page containing various advertisements and notices, including 'BEYOND THE CLOSED DOOR' and a form for contact information.

Handwritten Arabic text at the bottom right of the page: هكذا من الأصيل



Havana, with its beflowered balconies overlooking cobbled streets, its rococo churches and elegant plazas, its comfortable mixing of races, its sauciness and sophistication, its dishevelment and remarkable dignity, its impromptu gaiety, its kindness, stole my heart.

Left: Havana is aware of the draw of Ernest Hemingway's name in quest of tourist dollars. Havana's marina is named for the novelist.

Below: Plaza de la Catedral is dominated by the tiny, decadently baroque cathedral.

Photos by Christopher P. Baker

Havana Haunts Traveler's Soul

By Christopher P. Baker

Havana, Cuba—I cruised to Cuba at night, bunkered in the hold like the smuggled human freight as in Ernest Hemingway's *To Have and Have Not*.

The Caribbean Queen had put out from Jamaica for Santiago de Cuba with its cargo snoozing snugly below in aircraft seats from a First Class cabin.

Come dawn, I leaned against the rail with the wind whipping my hair and took in the astonishing view: to the west, the Sierra Maestra rearing up like a great, crocodile-backed sea beast, with pinnacles covered in clouds; to the east, an elevated plateau extending for miles and slanting gradually to the sea, with a serrated whaleback of mountains behind Cuba had just taken my breath away.

Seduction comes quickly in Cuba. I recalled author Pico Iyer's words about Cuba having an "indefinable air of adventure and possibility."

STREET SCENES

Walking Havana's streets, you sense you are living inside a romantic thriller. You don't want to sleep for fear of missing a vital experience. Before the revolution, Havana was a place of intrigue and tawdry romance. The Mafia ran things hand-in-hand with

Fulgencio Batista, the dictator and his cruel henchmen. Batista's Babylon offered a tropical buffet of sin. Spies and conspirators lurked in the shadows. The whiff, the intimation of liaison, of conspiracy, is still in the air. Says Iyer: "The tourist's exciting adventures have stakes he cannot fathom."

I was walking the Malecon—the great seafront boulevard that seems to embrace all Havana—hand-in-hand with a sensuous señorita. Passing by the Castillo de San Salvador, I could make out the SU-55 Stalin tank that Castro had commanded at the Bay of Pigs illuminated on its pedestal in front of the ornate Palace de la Revolution, the former Presidential Palace from where Batista had spun his web of corruption.

It was well beyond midnight. Couples were necking openly along the seafront boulevard. The air was languid, and as we strolled we were seized by the desire that blossoms in the heat of the tropical night. Occasionally, the beam of a floodlight from the old castle swept over us and we froze momentarily. I laughed, nervously. She asked why. "This is a ridiculous situation," I said. "Everything in Cuba is ridiculous," she replied.

Indeed, life here seems a paradox. The ironies are many.

Caribbean communism: socialism and sensuality. Cuba is as much of what you are told it will be, and yet none of those things.

First, my fears were unfounded. It was safe. I walked freely, without the restraints we foreigners

have come to expect.

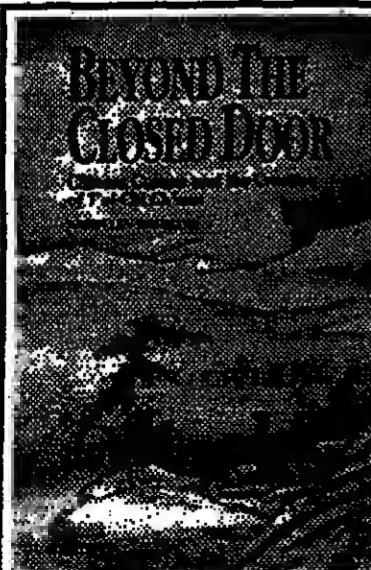
Thirty-odd years of negative media have led American visitors to expect the worst: a "fossilized, sclerotic society," "worm-eaten from within," with a sullen population "toppling toward starvation," with "lips glued by fear." Such made-in-the-USA images vastly distort reality. Life has Quixotic, even Kafkaesque, elements. It is hard for Cubans; their standard of living has plummeted since the collapse of the Soviet Union, Cuba's erstwhile umbilical cord during 33 years of a harrowing and far-reaching U.S. trade embargo (even food and medicines are banned) that still hangs like an ax over Cuba.

It is easy to enumerate the problems. It is easy, too, to find vast reservoirs of delight on this misunderstood and maligned nation.

"Every time I go to Cuba, I come back sounding like a tourist brochure. I bore my friends by counting the ways I love this improbable idyllic," wrote Iyer in a story I wish I had written myself. I know how he feels: the island haunts me like a dream.

There's no shortage of things to look forward to on this troubled island of tropical charms. The play of magnesium-bright lights on the cane fields and mountains. Proud colonial cities full of gilded treasures. Laughing children. Flawless beaches with waters the color of peacock feathers. A vibrant arts scene. Music everywhere. Gentle, passionate people who look you in the eye directly and speak philosophically, poetically of their love for their island. And Havana.

Continued on page 4



BEYOND THE CLOSED DOOR

Chinese Culture and the Creation of T'ai Chi Ch'uan

T'ai Chi is a child of Chinese culture, reflecting and illuminating the root ideas of its heritage. Arieh Lev Breslow weaves a colorful tapestry of myth, stories, philosophy, history and his own experience as a teacher of T'ai Chi, to give the reader a profound insight into the culture from which it came, helping to understand the origins and practice of T'ai Chi. "Reading this book will certainly take more time than a meal in a Chinese restaurant, and the reward is likely to be greater" - Michael Widlanski, The Jerusalem Post.

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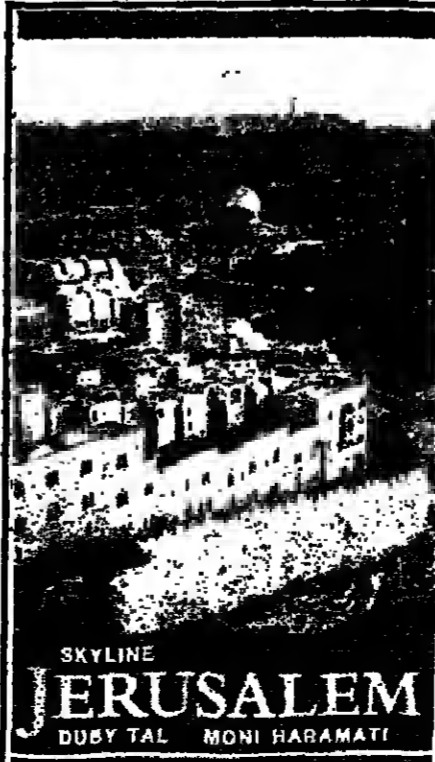
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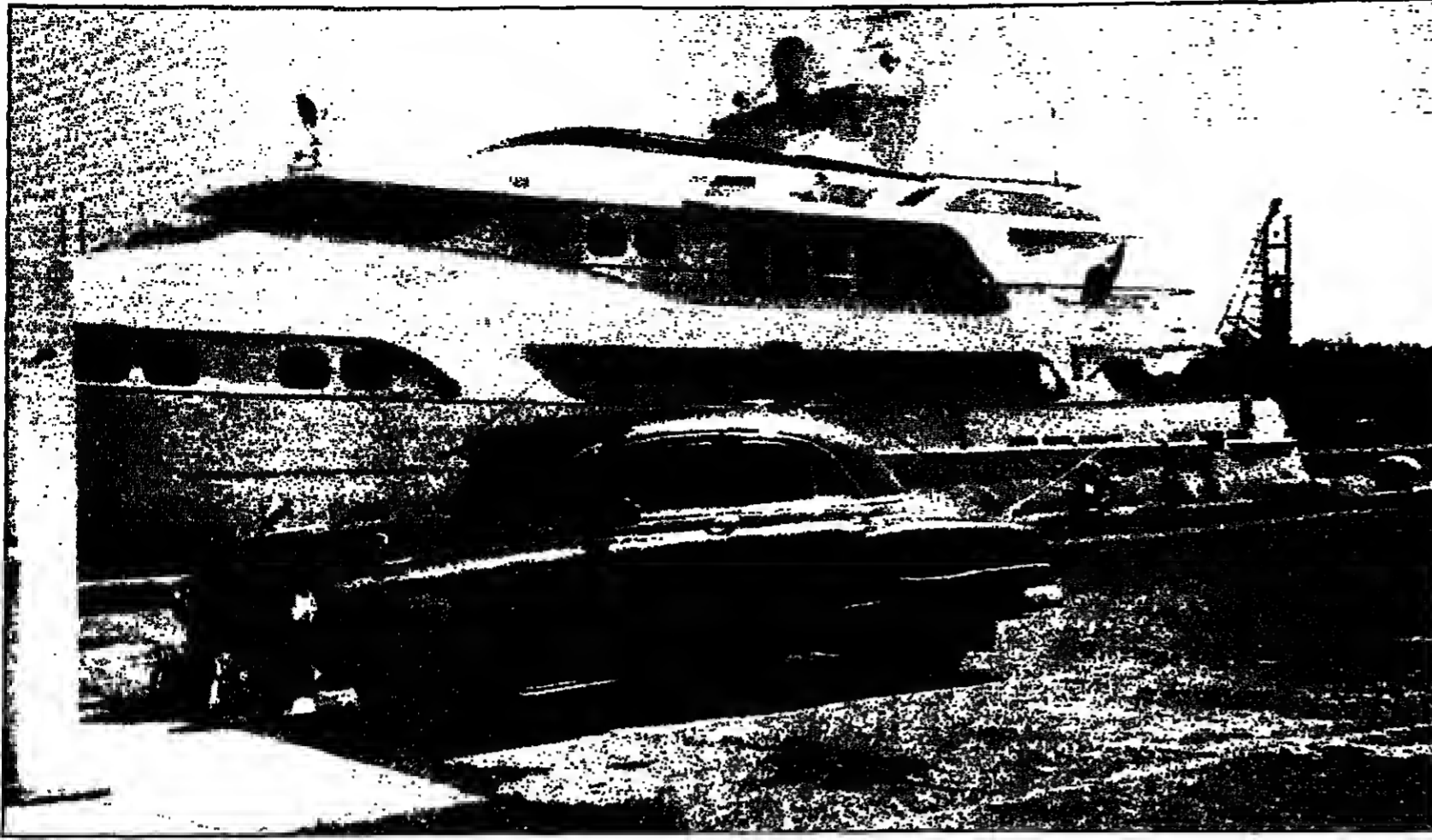
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Old cars and new yachts are featured at the harbor in Havana, Cuba.

Photo by Edward Mess

Winding Through Cuba's Revolutionary Streets

By Steve Bergsman

Copley News Service

My airplane came down slowly. A thunderstorm was racing in from the western coast, but through my window I could see bright sunlight, agricultural developments and a single strip of runway carved out of the green below. In the distance was the resort community of Varadero and the Caribbean's blue waters.

The flight from Montego Bay, Jamaica, was two hours, and the 30 passengers, mostly Europeans, were anxious to deplane. But on this first of two stops, only a few of us would be departing. The rest were headed to Havana.

After more than 35 years of Fidel Castro, the United States has no official diplomatic relations with Cuba. As a result, travel is not allowed except with certain, hard-to-get visas. Unofficially, anyone who wants to go, can.

There are no commercial flights between the two countries, so Americans need to travel through a country that has relations with Cuba. Among the most popular points of such embarkation are Nassau, the Bahamas; Toronto, Cancun, Mexico; and Jamaica.

I was a bit nervous on this—my first trip. There was no predicting what kind of reaction to expect at any immigration point. And there were other complicating factors—to do any reporting in Cuba I would need a journalist's visa.

However, there was no cause for alarm. Cuban immigration officials know Americans cannot forthrightly travel to Cuba, so when the passport is presented at immigration, it is not stamped. Immigration forms are stamped instead.

VARADERO

Varadero is a narrow peninsula about two hours east of Havana. Originally a fishing village, it was transformed in the 1940s and 1950s when wealthy Americans like the DuPonts came during the summer. The first and almost last great hotel to be built in Varadero was the International, a grand palace done in high, ornate style.

After the 1959 Revolution, tourism to Varadero withered away into one of the finest beaches in the Caribbean went unnoted. Except for small hotels built for the domestic tourist trade, it was not until the early 1990s when the country opened up to foreign investments, that hotels started sprouting again. Europeans and Latin Americans quickly discovered Varadero beach.

The hotels of Varadero are run by the likes of SuperClob of Jamaica, LTI from Germany and Melia out of Spain, and all are first-class resorts. However, as a hotel security guard (a former university professor who found the pay was better at the resort) sagely informed me, "Varadero is another country."

I would have to travel to Havana to find the real Cuba.

HAVANA

Havana has changed after the revolution in 1959. Whatever automobiles Cubans were driving that year, whether a 1954 Chevy or a 1959 DeSoto, are still driven, possibly by the same people.

While the myriad of Havana's buildings have been worn by use and abuse, they are a true treasure of architecture. Probably nowhere else on earth is there such a pure representation of 20th century architecture from ornate, turn-of-the-century, post-Victorian to the cleaner lines of art deco and the modernism of Frank Lloyd Wright. All this wealth of style came to Havana before 1959 when the city was a vivid, wide-open playground for the wealthy. Modern denizens of Havana know the value of their

architecture, which includes sections built in the 1800s, 1700s and earlier. These buildings cannot by law be demolished, and in Old Town Havana some restoration is finally under way.

THE PEOPLE

Cubans are open and warm-hearted people, and greetings come with an explosion of kisses and hugs. Even visitors from the United States are treated as old friends.

The Cuban people are handsome, lusty and fluid of motion. A Cuban attracts the eye. In this tropical climate, the women dress in extremely short skirts and light blouses or tank tops.

Cubans love to talk, and the favorite topic among the male population is baseball, the country's national pastime. There probably isn't a Cuban man over the age of 18 who doesn't know every player in the National and American leagues. They can cite the batting average of Tooy Gwynn or the importance of Mickey Mantle. They will even tell you which Cuban players on the national team should be playing in America—and the record of the Cuban players today.

The first thing a non-Cuban notices is that there is a strong generation gap. The older generations that remember the revolution's exciting years remain tied to Fidel Castro. Cuba's Generation X missed the romance of the revolution.

In today's atmosphere, Cubans also talk about politics. The first thing a non-Cuban notices is that there is a strong generation gap. The older generations that remember the revolution's exciting years remain tied to Fidel Castro.

Cuba's Generation X missed the romance of the revolution and only experienced the pain of financial deprivation familiar to the lumpen proletariat of any 20th century Communist society.

You can travel anywhere in Cuba today, which is great because there is so much to do.

THE HEMINGWAY CONNECTION

Ernest Hemingway was writing about Europe in World War I, but the line almost could have referred to his home in Cuba, which he called the "Finca Vigia." When Mary Welsh, who was to marry Hemingway, noted it was one block away from the town of San Francisco De Paulo. Today, absorbed into the environs of Havana, the home has become the Ernest Hemingway Museum.

Also engulfed by the city's expansion is the fishing village of Cojimar, where Hemingway docked his boat, the Pilar. The Pilar is now safely dry-docked at the Hemingway museum, but other haunts are still alive and active.

Some of the most famous Hemingway hangouts include La Terraza in Cojimar and, in Havana, La Florida (home of the daiquiri, which is still served the way Hemingway liked it, no sugar and double rum) and La Bodeguita de Medio, where visitors sign their names on the walls.

Also still very much alive is Gregorio Fuentes, Hemingway's boat mate on the Pilar. Now 98 years old, he lives in a small house in Cojimar and still enjoys talking to visitors about his days with "Papa."

SEEING THE CITY

There are two main walks in Havana. The first is defined by the Malecon, or seawall, which with a pedestrian walk runs about 10 miles along the Caribbean coast. Built during the rule of the hated dictator Fulgencio Batista (it could have been the only good thing he did for the city), the Malecon has become one of the most famous stretches of sidewalk in the world.

In the morning, people fish from the Malecon's walls, and in the evenings, couples of all ages nestle against it and crowds of people gather at certain plazas near it. One of the most popular is the Plaza of Youth, outside the Melia Cohiba hotel, where a horde of Cubans gathers to party, pet and preen.

The other walk is the Prado, which runs from the Malecon to the National Palace and was the main commercial street before the revolution. Most of the commercial business is now gone, but the vibrancy of pedestrian activity still remains. Today, restaurants and bars are beginning to emerge once again. The National Palace, which resembles our capitol building in Washington, D.C., the theater and ballet are on this street, as well as some renovated hotels.

A number of sites are within walking distance of the Prado, including the La Florida. A favorite stop is the Museum of the Revolution, which at first glance looks like a parking lot. The vehicles there all have an importance to the revolution. For example, the red delivery truck was used by students who tried to assassinate Batista in March 1957. Inside the building is the big white yacht, which is probably the most famous boat in Cuban history. It brought Castro from Mexico to Cuba, where he began the long journey up the spine of the island to make war on Batista.

The most picturesque part of Havana is Old Town, where narrow streets wind past stone buildings and cathedrals constructed in the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries. To add to the enjoyment of all that history is the Cathedral Square craft market, where local artisans come to sell their goods.

Not far away, in a small park, is the outdoor book market, another place where locals set up stalls and sell for their own profit. While most of the books are in Spanish, there were also a number of English-language gems.

The most prominent colonial structures still standing are the many forts that once guarded Havana from pirates and marauders. The most famous is Morro Castle, built over a 10-year period from 1587-97. There are a number of others, some of which house excellent museums.

Every night at 9 p.m., a cannon is fired from one of the forts. In colonial times, it signaled the closing of the town gates. Crowds form on the parapets to wait for the deafening roar of cannon fire and watch soldiers in colonial uniforms go through their paces.

Some other sites to visit are the Plaza of the Revolution, with its large monument to Jose Marti (this is where multitudes gather to hear Castro speak and to celebrate the revolution en masse); Havana's picturesque cemetery, Cementerio de Colon; and the National Hotel (with a picture gallery of famous patrons—everyone from Meyer Lansky to Frank Sinatra).

There is one other main road in Havana, very different and appropriately named Fifth Avenue, which winds through the section known as Miramar. Before the revolution, this was home to the wealthy businessmen and professionals of the city. Today, the large houses mostly are inhabited by the foreign diplomatic corps. This area also boasts some of the better stores and many very fine restaurants.

When it comes to Havana, as Gregorio Fuentes once told Hemingway, "There is never a last word."

Steve Bergsman is a freelance travel writer.

Havana From page 3

indisputably the most exhilarating city in the Caribbean, with a sunwashed sadness and sultry spontaneity that recall the decayed decadence of Naples and New Orleans.

My first reaction to Havana was of being caught in an eerie 1950s time warp. Fading signs advertising Hotpoint and Singer conjure up the decades when Cuba was in virtual colony of America. Highfinned, voluptuous dowagers from the heyday of Detroit are everywhere, too: chrome-corpulent Buicks, stylish Plymouth Furies and other relics of '50s ostentation, when American cars reflected the Hollywood zeitgeist for excessive wealth, fantasy, gaudiness and sex with which Havana was at that time synonymous.

All the glamour of an abandoned stage set is there, patinated by age. Havana aches with pathos: "Like a Latin woman, beautiful but exhausted, dancing through the perfumed night with a gun in her hand," wrote Bob Shacochis.

HISTORY

Once a stronghold for Mexican treasures en route to Europe, Old Havana is today a 350-acre repository (home to 60,000 Habaneros) of castles and churches and columned mansions dating back centuries. The area (proclaimed a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1982) is being rescued from centuries of neglect, a symbol of triumph over horrendous shortages of materials and money.

More than 900 of Habana Vieja's 3,157 buildings are of historic importance, including 144 from the 16th and 17th centuries.

At its heart, the Spaniards built two statuesque cobbled plazas: the Plaza de Armas, centered on a green park and lorded over by the Governor's Palace, now the City Museum; and the smaller, yet more imposing, Plaza de la Catedral, zero milestone in Havana's history, dominated by the tiny, decadently baroque cathedral. On either side of its lavish facade are towers containing two bells supposedly cast with a dash of golf that accounts for their musical tone.

As I strolled through the plaza, two women in traditional white cotton dresses and bright-colored turbans preened and posed for my camera. "Un beso for tío!" said one, blowing a kiss.

ZEST FOR LIFE

Cuban communism, I was discovering, didn't mean you couldn't have fun. Habaneros have a zest for life despite their recent hardships.

One of the first moves of the revolutionary government was to kick out the Mafia and close the strip clubs, casinos and brothels.

"It is as if the Amish had taken over Las Vegas," lamented Kenneth Tynan in "Holiday." Not quite! Cuba is, after all, a Caribbean nation—and Latin at that! Nightclubs are easy to find, throbbing to the

latest sounds: world-beat hip hop and salsa. There are jazz clubs and bohemian cafes spilling onto colonial plazas. And bars, such as La Bodeguita and El Floridita, haunted by Ernest Hemingway's ghost. Hints of Havana's old sauciness linger on, too, at the now in its sixth decade of Vegas paganism.

I had watched, mesmerized, as pink and mauve searchlights swept over hordes of showgirls, gaudily feathered.

Later, at Hemingway's favorite bar, La Bodeguita del Medio, thirsty tourists washed through the famous bar; between tides I could savor the proletarian fusion of dialectics and rum. I sipped mojitos, the rum mint julep that the author brought out of obscurity.

A stranger invites me to a Cuban soiree hosted by Dulce Maria, an intoxicatingly warm-hearted singer and songwriter.

Climbing a rickety staircase to the top of dilapidated four-story building, I emerge on a rooftop overlooking the Plaza de la Catedral. Hands are extended; I am hugged warmly by Cubans I do not know. Dulce's band—Son de Cuba—is gearing up with a rumba.

The rhythms of the marimba, the tres and the bongo pulse across the rooftops of Old Havana. Rum and beer are passed around and soon we are clapping and laughing beneath a star-filled sky while Dulce belts out traditional Cuban compositions. The infectious beat lures us to dance. It is like the plague: You can only flee to succumb. When I look at my watch it is 2 a.m.

Havana, with its beflowered balconies overlooking cobbled streets, its roococo churches and elegant plazas, its comfortable mixing of races, its sauciness and sophistication, its dishevelment and remarkable dignity, its impromptu gaiety, its kindness, stole my heart.

Hemingway, who loved Cuba and lived there for the better part of 20 years, once warned novice writer Arnold Samuelsen against "a tendency to condemn before you completely understand."

"You'll have to watch that," said Hemingway, "you aren't God and you never judge a man. You present him as he is and you let the reader judge."

California-based freelancer Christopher P. Baker is authoring *The Cuba Handbook*, and has visited Cuba several times.

TRAVELER

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Photo by Christopher P. Baker

There is music everywhere in Havana. It's part of the charm of a city that has seen better days.

هكذا من الأصيل

Fear of leaving old job may be self-imposed

DEAR RUTHIE
RUTHIE BLUM

DEAR Ruthie, I work in an office which has a very bad atmosphere. For a few months now I have been interviewing secretly for a position elsewhere. My current boss is quite impossible to work for: one minute he's friendly, and the next he's a monster. The secretaries are often in tears because of his temper tantrums.

The problem is that now I have been offered another job - one which I am actually considering - I suddenly feel disloyal towards my present employer. I'm afraid that my absence will be devastating to my boss, as well as upsetting to the other employees who have always said that without me around, the place would be intolerable. I do not know what - or how - to decide.

In Cold Feet
Somewhere in Israel
Dear Foot Frozen,

The onset of cold feet in this case may have more to do with your anxiety about changing positions than with the fear of being disloyal. The fact that you have been looking to leave for some time now indicates that the bad atmosphere is unacceptable to you. The dilemma in which you now find yourself, then, is self-imposed.

Perhaps the act of interviewing in secret helped you to focus on some form of light at the end of the tunnel. Apparently, it hadn't occurred to you that you'd reach that light eventually.

Having a wish granted can be a terrifying business; where new expectations arise, new possibilities for disappointment are not far behind. If you can pinpoint where the chill on your feet is located, you will be equipped better to select the right stockings.

Dear Ruthie,
When my daughter told me about a grant she received which would take her to a prestigious university in the US for a year, I couldn't have been more proud. But when it turned out that she did not intend to take her seven-year-old son with her, I was absolutely shocked.

Since her husband couldn't leave his work for such a long stretch, he will be remaining behind. This is between the two of them (though it doesn't seem very

healthy for their marriage). But - more importantly - a young child should not be separated from his mother for a year! Her reassurances that she will visit as often as possible do little to alleviate my heavy heart. How can I convince her of the error of her ways?

Disgusted with Daughter
Somewhere in Israel
Dear D with D,

A decision as important as this one cannot be overturned at the drop of a few magic words. Do not assume that your daughter and her husband are unaware of the negative aspects of her choice. It is likely that the two of them chewed, swallowed, and digested the entire subject well before breaking the news to you. This is not to say that you shouldn't make your objections known. Concern for your grandson's welfare is sufficient cause for voicing misgivings. Just don't get your hopes up too high about changing your daughter's mind. What you can do is to be very active in support of your grandson during his mother's absence. Spending a lot of time with him, at least, can contribute concretely to his well-being.

Dear Ruthie,
I have been a widow for three years. I am 68, but have longings to fall in love as if I were a teenager. I have friends who have met men through personal ads, but this is not something I am prepared to do. Can you suggest how a woman of my age can find a respectable gentleman?

Longing for Love
Jerusalem
Dear L for L,

The best way to find romance - at any age - is to be an open-minded (and -hearted) recipient. Potential mates often elude those of us most anxious to have one. Keeping this in mind, the rest is a matter of footwork. The more out-and-about you are, the greater your chances will be to meet "respectable" gentlemen.

Letters should be addressed to: 'Dear Ruthie,' POB 81, 91000 Jerusalem. For E-mail, editors @jpost.co.il. (Ruthie regrets not being able to guarantee publication of every letter, but will answer every letter received.)

What a heavenly body!

DAVID BENNETT

ASTRONOMER Clyde Tombaugh figures he has looked at 90 million stars in his long life. But there is one moment - and one celestial body - that he remembers best. That was the day 66 years ago that he discovered the planet Pluto.

It was February 18, 1930, when Tombaugh, then 24, was poring over photographs of millions of stars taken through a 13-inch telescope at the Lowell Observatory in Flagstaff, Arizona.

At exactly 4 p.m., using an instrument called a Blink-Comparator, he found what he had been looking for - the long-sought, mysterious Planet X, as it was known to astronomers then.

He verified the discovery, triple-checked his information, then ran to inform his superiors and fellow staffers. "My heart was racing, boy, oh boy, was it. That was some day. Everybody was excited as the dickens," Tombaugh, now 90, said.

News of the discovery was not released to the press until three weeks later, at which time Tombaugh became a world celebrity. Newspapers around the world heralded his discovery, which was pretty heady stuff for a young man with no college training and not long off the farm from Kansas.

In 1928, Tombaugh had been hired at Lowell Observatory after he sent in sketches of Mars and Jupiter he had made by looking through a handmade telescope at his family's farm.

Scientists were so impressed with his skills that they hired him to join the team searching for Planet X, which astronomers believed existed but could not find.

Astronomers theorized that Planet X was located in a region of the sky called the Zodiac Belt. And that is where Tombaugh found it that day as he looked at photographs. "Contrary to popular belief, I didn't discover Pluto by looking through a telescope. It's almost impossible to see through a telescope, because it has the brightness of a candle seen from 300 miles," he said.

Instead, Tombaugh found Pluto by using a Blink-Comparator, which, with the help of photographs taken at different times, reveals objects that move among the stars.

After his great find, Tombaugh returned to Kansas to go to school at the University of Kansas. He continued to search for other planets while working on a master's degree.

Tombaugh found six star clusters, two comets, hundreds of

asteroids, and galaxy clusters, but no more planets.

"During that period, I personally looked at more than 90 million stars - and that's a lot of stars, let me tell you," he said. Based on his research, Tombaugh is sure of one thing - no other planets exist in this solar system.

At the height of World War II, Tombaugh taught navigation and physics to Navy pilots. Then, in 1946, he moved to New Mexico to develop methods for tracking rockets under development at White Sands Missile Range. He eventually joined the faculty at New Mexico State University in Las Cruces, from which he is now retired.

Today, Tombaugh is in frail health, and his celebrity has all but faded away. But that could change in the year 2003, when NASA plans to send space probes on a 13-year voyage to Pluto.

Robert Staehle, current director of the project known as Pluto Express, said he expects the mission, or perhaps the spacecraft itself, will bear Tombaugh's name. (Reuters)

A Jordanian flight with views

Jay Levison describes a memorable journey on Royal Jordanian Airlines

WHEN you travel, getting to your destination is half the fun. So, on a recent trip to North America, I decided to be adventurous. An Israeli with a US passport, I walked into the eastern Jerusalem offices of Royal Jordanian Airlines, where I bought a ticket from Amman to Montreal with a return from New York, including kosher meals.

On the morning of my departure, I boarded the 7:00 bus from Jerusalem to Tiberias and asked the driver to let me off at the Allenby Bridge.

No more Jericho. Today it is the "bypass road." Road? More like a trail reminiscent of the Wild West! Some 50 minutes into the trip the driver announced, "Allenby Bridge." The bridge, I was informed by two soldiers, was 2km. down the road. Luckily a driver stopped to give me a ride to the terminal.

As I walked up to the border-control clerk I glanced nervously at my watch; 8:07. My flight was due to leave at 11:00. I paid NIS 80 exit tax and the supervisor drove me to the foot of the bridge. I carried my suitcase 20 meters, and I was on Jordanian soil.

My visa was handed to me at a small police checkpoint, and I was off to Queen Alia Airport.

After the plane had been airborne for about 10 minutes, the stewardess told me that there would be a kosher meal for me. The Arab in the neighboring seat



put down his newspaper, looked me over, and started his interrogation. "Where are you from? Where do you work? Where are you going?" He broke into a smile. "I'm from Aleppo, Syria. You are the first Israeli I have ever spoken with!"

I was swamped with questions. "Is there industry on the Golan Heights or just army camps? How much does a bus ride cost? Is there halal meat in Israel?"

I tried to nap but I was always awakened with questions. I took the hint that I would have no rest until Montreal as I assured my new friend that Israelis laugh, cry, joke, go to work, repair their cars, and do grocery shopping; that it's not just soldiers, guns, and war.

Finally a break! The plane landed in Amsterdam for a 50-minute layover. The passengers stayed on the plane as the cleaning crew did

a quick job cleaning the plane. More passengers came aboard, then a new stewardess came over to my seat.

"We will not take off until there is kosher food for you," she assured me. Three minutes later she was back with two kosher meals "borrowed from another carrier." (The meals might have passed the rabbi's requirements, but they certainly failed the consumer's taste test. I would have been better off with fruit.)

The final leg of the trip to Montreal was uneventful. There were more questions from the Syrian who, he explained, was immigrating to Toronto.

I understood his anxiety. I had butterflies in my stomach when I immigrated to Israel. So, I gave him the phone number of a friend in Hamilton. I called the friend several days later. The Syrian did

contact him, and my friend was of real assistance.

TOWARD THE END of my three weeks in North America I started to plan the return trip.

I contacted Royal Jordanian in New York to confirm my reservation, and my kosher meal. It was a good thing I called. The flight had been moved up an hour. And check-in was at 7:30, only quarter of an hour after the Sabbath was due to go out. Boarding was at 8:30.

Five minutes after the end of the Sabbath, a friend drove me to Kennedy Airport as fast as was possible. We made it with 20 minutes to spare before boarding. (At the end of the flight in Amman the old adage "Last on, first off" held true: I was one of the first passengers to get their luggage.)

It was back to the old routine.

Curry-on baggage in the overhead compartment; collapse into a seat and rest after a tiring day. Just as I was dozing off, I was awakened by someone trying to get to the seat next to mine.

"Where are you from?" I asked. "Damascus." The word dropped like lead balloon. Here goes my sleep again.

This time the subject was politics. "Why does Israel continue to occupy the Golan Heights?" "Okay, why did you use the Heights for actions against Israel?"

There is no winner in these discussions. It is always stalemate. I was not going to make a Zionist out of him. He would not make me pro-Syrian.

"Believe it or not, I go days without thinking of the Golan. What keeps me busy? My son has a cough. The price of milk is too high. Another son had a problem with his teacher. That's life in Israel. No secrets. Here's my business card."

He took the card, studied it carefully, then advised me that he could not bring it home. Contact with the enemy carries a stiff prison sentence.

A stewardess gave me a kosher meal. It had been prepared by a New York caterer. It was the best meal yet. The stewardess was as curious as my Syrian neighbor. I explained the laws of kashrut, the reason I took Royal Jordanian and where I came from.

Before I knew what was going on I was inspected by a Jordanian security guard. Then I was ushered into the cockpit. Even for one with considerable experience of air travel, the view was magnificent. It was a nice gesture.

We flew over "the Holy Land," as the pilot referred to Israel. "Haifa is to your left, Tel Aviv to your right," Amman was straight ahead. I already knew the ropes. Border control; a taxi into Amman and an overnight stay in a hotel. The following morning I was off to the Allenby Bridge and back home.

The mysterious Area 51, home to UFOs

KAATHLEEN Ford peers over the steering wheel of her van and points a manicured fingernail toward the dusky gold-en sky. "Perfect weather to pick up saucers," she says approvingly.

Many a cold lonely evening, the 45-year-old former Las Vegas blackjack dealer and beauty-school graduate has pointed her camera hopefully at the desert sky and taken pictures of what looked like nothing - only to have the film reveal dark landscapes punctuated by odd squiggles of light or ghostly blobs.

UFOs, she muses. "When there are just enough clouds in the sky, things fall into place," Ford explains. "And I pick up things." Which is why she was acting as tour guide to a group hoping for similar luck. This is alien territory - extraterrestrial aliens, that is.

In fact, this desolate Nevada desert is so famous for UFO sightings that the Nevada state assembly has designated Nevada State Highway 375 the "Extraterrestrial Highway."

For Ford's 10 passengers, all attending the week-long International UFO Congress convention in Mesquite, 130 km. north of Las Vegas, this ride was a long field trip. It began with sky watching and ended with a respite here at the Little A'Le Inn, a diner that caters to the hunger pangs of UFO tourists.

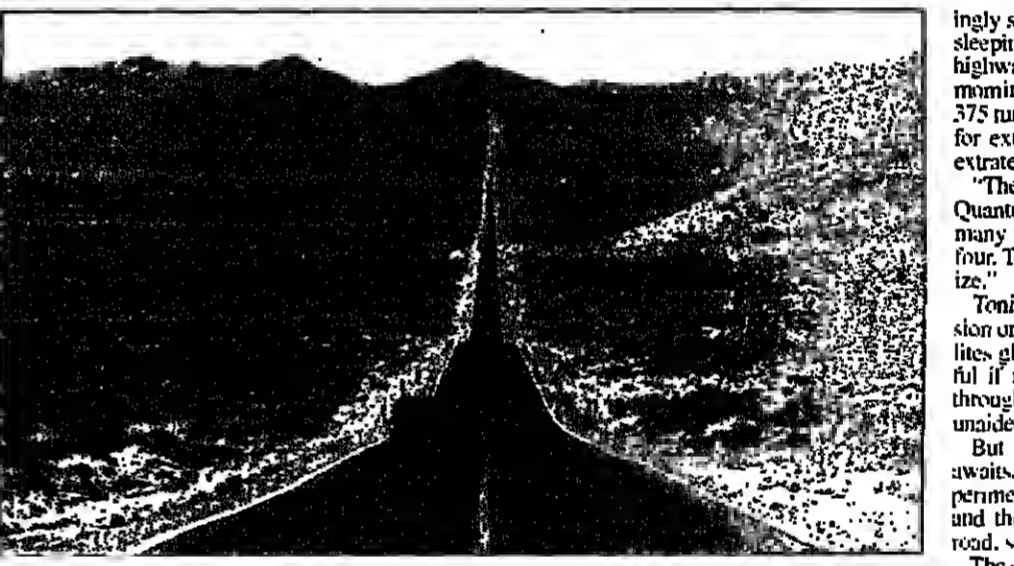
In between is a trip down white sand roads to the edge of Area 51, a highly secret military installation - the location of which is one of the military's worst-kept secrets.

Some say this is where the military tests its state-of-the-art planes. Legend among UFO buffs has it that the military holds captured spacecrafts there and attempts to "reverse-engineer" them.

In public, the US air force doesn't even call it Area 51. Instead, they call it the operating location near Groom Dry Lake - a part of the huge Nellis Range Complex. They won't say what goes on there. "We don't discuss that," said Maj. Mary Feltault, an air force spokeswoman at the Pentagon. "On certain areas of the Nellis Range Complex, the mission is classified."

The secrecy of Area 51 and the mystery of UFOs are inextricably linked in this remote Nevada high desert. This group would just have to see for themselves.

As the van trundles up US 93, the flat tops of mesas spread across the horizon. In the golden light of dusk, their rocky faces are ribboned in



Nevada Highway 75, a prime territory for UFO buffs, stretches near Nellis Air Force base. Enthusiasts claim space ships are held at the base. (Ken Hively/LA Times)

colors of red and brown. Who could blame extraterrestrials for wanting to land in such starkly beautiful surroundings?

As the sun sets, three peach-and-gray clouds appear in the sky bearing an uncanny resemblance to flying saucers as Salvador Dali might have painted them. Everyone looks and chuckles in delight. It is their first shared sighting.

Night falls by the time Ford turns onto Highway 375 and heads west, not passing another car for miles. She scans the highway for Mailbox Road - a parking in the blackness of the night, marked only by a mailbox. She once camped here alone for three weeks with little more than a sleeping bag, a camera and a rifle for protection.

From this remote swath of land people have seen light shows they can't explain. It also happens to be a mere 32 km. from Area 51.

The air is chilly, and the only light is the moon. Chuck Clark, wearing a warm jacket and a hat with earflaps, is waiting for the group, his telescope mounted and pointed at the moon. A self-described amateur astronomer, he has devoted himself to studying UFOs and scrutinizing the perimeter of Area 51. He has even

become familiar with the security guards. "I aggravate them a lot," says Clark, a soft-spoken, serious man. "I'll sit out there for an hour and then hit them with a strobe light."

He points across the horizon toward the west and some mountains in the distance. All you can see is a lot of sky and Venus sitting low and bright. "Area 51 is to the left of Venus," Clark explains. "Quite often at this time, they'll fly stuff." The UFO-seeking tourists stare into the distance.

"So when was the last time you saw something?" someone asks. "About two and a half months ago," Clark answers, but it was a minor sighting.

Last year though, he was on this road, peering into the distance, when he saw what looked - at first - like a flare from a mortar launch. "All of a sudden it streaked over there to that mountain," he says, pointing. "It went about 4.8 [7.6 km.] miles in one and a half seconds." The object, he says, made nary a sound.

"Wow," someone says softly. "But why would alien beings, from millions of kilometers away, keep picking this tiny sliver of Nevada - so desolate that Clark himself laugh-

ingly says "at five in the evening you can put a sleeping bag out there on the middle line of the highway and not be disturbed until five the next morning?" Why would this stretch of Highway 375 turn into a kind of cult favorite landing spot for extraterrestrials? "I never said they were extraterrestrial," Clark corrects.

"They very likely may be inter-dimensional. Quantum physicists believe there are maybe as many as 23 dimensions. We are only aware of four. There may be other realities we don't realize."

Tonight there are no flares from any dimension or world. With the exception of a few satellites, gliding by in the heavens, it's an uneventful if majestic sky. People take turns peering through the telescope while others look up unaided - content to have a night of stargazing.

But it's cold, and a closer look at Area 51 awaits. Ford plans a bold drive up to one perimeter. She scans her assembled charges, and the caravan heads across miles of sandy road, seemingly toward nowhere.

The cars stop 30 feet shy of half a dozen signposts stuck in the road and painted red and white with the words "restricted area." Scrub-covered hillsides flank the road, and a camera mounted on top of one ridge spies on all who drive up.

With Ford's headlights the only illumination, the group gingerly wanders up to the signposts like cats approaching a big sleeping dog.

"Don't go within 10 feet of the signs," warns Ford. "or you'll be arrested." Sure enough, within 10 minutes, headlights begin snaking toward the visitors from beyond the warning signs. "OK, that's it! Let's go!" cries Ford, and everyone scrambles back into the cars to beat a hasty retreat. Out the back window of the van, the only strange lights from Area 51 are the headlights of the security patrol.

Pentagon spokeswoman Feltault is philosophical about the attention Area 51 attracts. "Everybody loves a secret," she said. "But if Area 51 is forbidding, the last stop on the journey is inviting. The blinking sign of the Little A'Le Inn, the centerpiece of the block-long town of Rachel, beckons like a beacon on the dark highway. Next to the door is a picture of an alien character with bulbous head and huge almond-shaped eyes and a sign that proclaims: "earthlings welcome." (Los Angeles Times)

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BUSINESS & FINANCE

THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 1996

More arrests expected in Migdal affair

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

MORE arrests are expected in connection with the attempt by Migdal Insurance to take over Elern Investments following the arrest and release of Migdal chairman Uzi Levy on Monday.

The National Fraud Squad arrested Levy on suspicion of violating the banking law (licensing), committing bank management offenses and false registration of documents.

Tel Aviv Magistrate Court Judge George Kara released Levy on NIS 20,000 bail. He was instructed to deposit his passport with the police and report for questioning when asked to do so.

The suspicions against Levy are connected with the insurance company's attempts to take over Elern Investments in 1993.

The police suspect the Migdal group gained control of Elern,

with financing obtained by Bank Leumi, the insurance firm's parent company. They suspect Bank Leumi lent Migdal NIS 20m. for the takeover.

According to the suspicions, Migdal managers and Leumi violated banking law (licensing) and company ordinances which prohibit a bank from financing a firm's attempt to gain control of a company associated with a third party. The law is intended to prevent banks from inappropriately taking advantage of their financing ability.

At the court, a police representative said other managers will also be investigated.

The investigation was opened several months ago after Supervisor of Banks Ze'ev Abeles filed a complaint against Bank Leumi with the attorney general.

Shohat proposes to overhaul pay of senior civil servants

Jerusalem Post Staff

WAGES earned by senior executives across the public sector stand to be redefined and ultimately trimmed, according to a plan which Finance Minister Avraham Shohat intends to bring to the cabinet's approval.

According to the plan, salaries earned by directors general of government ministries will no longer be linked to those of Knesset members and deputy ministers.

Meanwhile, the income of the heads of all the various security forces - including the army, police, General Security Service, Mossad and the Prisons Authority - will cease to be adjusted to judges' pay.

Currently, an elaborate system of linkage - by which one executive's salary changes at the same



Shohat's plan would delink wages of ministry directors general with those of MKs and deputy ministers. (Stein/Hasari)

through the national budget whenever the Knesset revises its own and the judiciary's wages.

If adopted, the plan would not be implemented retroactively but instead would only affect senior executives whose appointments would take place beginning June 1.

Similarly, wages earned by deputy directors general, assistant directors general or division heads in government ministries will cease to be linked to the pay of directors general, according to the plan.

Treasury executives explained that the de-linking of mid-level senior executives' pay from that of their senior colleagues will not only save the government considerable - though still unspecified - sums of money, but also enhance the separation of the executive and legal branches.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Chemical exports up 11% in '95: Chemical exports, including fuel, increased 11 percent last year to \$2.48 billion, the Manufacturers Association announced yesterday. Excluding fuel, exports rose 2.2% to \$2.18b. In the same period, imports rose 20.9% to \$4b. Galit Lipkis Beck

The moshav movement yesterday held an emergency meeting to discuss the urgent need for a solution to the shortage of workers in the agricultural field as a result of the closure of the territories. The moshavim want 4,000 additional foreign workers for the agriculture sector. Galit Lipkis Beck

The Israel Consumer Council yesterday appealed to the Jerusalem Anti-Trust Court against Monopolies Supervisor Yoram Turbovitz's decision to exempt banks from receiving the court's approval to negotiate with management on issues related to the bank's movement to a five-day work week. The court will discuss the appeal on Sunday. Galit Lipkis Beck

Mutual fund redemptions reached NIS 245 million in February in what was another bad month for the capital market, the Meitav Mutual Fund Consultancy firm reported yesterday. Total assets fell to NIS 15.87 billion from NIS 16.01b. at the end of January. About half the redemptions were registered in the share fund. Galit Lipkis Beck

The Mivtahim pension fund achieved a negative real yield of 0.07 percent in February. Since the start of the year the fund has achieved a real yield of 0.3%. The fund's total assets increased to NIS 518m. at the end of February, compared with NIS 515m. at the end of January. Galit Lipkis Beck

WORLD BRIEFS

AEG tells bitter shareholders end was inevitable: The management of Germany's soon-to-be defunct AEG AG rail and engineering group defended plans to dissolve the ailing group in the teeth of criticism from its minority shareholders yesterday. AEG chairman Ernst Georg Stoelckl told a special shareholder meeting in Berlin that AEG's operating loss alone in 1995 amounted to DM 500 million - too much to justify a rescue by its parent Daimler-Benz AG. Reuter

Lithuania soothes investors after banking crisis: Lithuania's central bank yesterday reassured foreign investors that the banking system was recovering from a crisis. "The Lithuanian banking system, with the exception of two or three banks, is functioning normally," the Bank of Lithuania chairman said at a meeting between bank officials and foreign investors. Reuter

Agan Chemicals posts rise in net profits

COMPANY RESULTS

RACHEL NEIMAN and GALIT LIPKIS BECK

AGAN Chemicals reported a rise in annual net profits to NIS 72 million from NIS 55m. in 1994.

Consolidated annual revenues went up to NIS 656.94m. from NIS 544.8m., while earnings per share rose to NIS 4.79 from NIS 3.65.

Export sales increased 23% to NIS 601.4m. from NIS 463m. Sales to the local market rose 4% to NIS 4m. from NIS 3.84m.

Sales of herbicides were \$174.4m., 17% higher than \$144.7m. in 1994. Sales were strongest in Brazil and Argentina.

Agan and parent company Macteshim (which owns some 47% of Agan) are in the process of completing a joint 49% share purchase of Herhitechnica, a Brazilian pesticide distributorship, for \$20 million.

The company said improved herbicide sales were achieved without the introduction of new products. Agan is currently working on new herbicide products for the Latin American market.

Sales of aromatic products, primarily to detergent and cosmetics industries abroad, rose 42.5% to \$35m. from \$24.7m.

Coral Beach Eilat posted a rise in annual net profits to NIS 1.9m. from NIS 1.24m. in 1994.

Annual revenues went up to NIS 11m. from NIS 11.49m., while earnings per share went up to NIS 0.35 from NIS 0.23.

Liraz Systems announced annual net profits of NIS 12.9m., compared with net losses of NIS 3.33m. in 1994.

Revenues went up to NIS 100.3m. from NIS 76.56m. Last year the Liraz group, a software solutions provider, increased activity in the US, raising \$6m. in subsidiary Cross Data Systems' IPO on the Nasdaq.

Orda Print Industries annual net profits went up to NIS 3m. from NIS 2.24m. in 1994.

Revenues rose to NIS 43m. from NIS 39.1m., while earnings per share increased to NIS 2.66 from NIS 1.96.

Tadiran Consumer Products, a subsidiary of Tadiran, reported a 24% growth in net profits for the fourth quarter to NIS 2.1m. from NIS 1.7m.

The company completed the year with a 14% rise in net profits to NIS 13m. from NIS 11.4m. in 1994.

14 local firms to attend air show in Chile

STEVE RODAN

FOURTEEN local defense contractors will participate in Latin America's largest aerospace exhibition next week, Defense Ministry officials said yesterday.

The Israelis will be part of 330 companies from 32 countries that will have exhibitions at FIDAE, which takes place at a Chilean Air Force base from next week.

The Israeli delegation is being organized by Sibat, the Defense Ministry's wing for arms exports.

Among the weapons to be displayed will be the Popeye and Barak missiles, the Python air-to-air missile, the Litening navigation system.

Some of the Israeli companies participating in the exhibition include Rafael, Israel Aircraft Industries, TAAS, Tadiran, Elbit, El-Op and FMS.

Salomon Bros: Buy recommendation for FIBI

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

INVESTMENT banker Salomon Brothers has published a buy recommendation for First International Bank of Israel (FIBI), defining it as "the jewel of the Israeli banking industry," in a report to investors.

According to the report, FIBI is expected to post a 14 percent real growth in 1995 earnings. Salomon Brothers forecasts a similar growth for this year.

"We believe the two big impediments to profitability in 1994 and 1995 - shrinking interest spreads and slow capital markets - will reverse their trends in 1996, or, at the very least, deteriorate

no further," the report says.

The analysts emphasized that FIBI is the only bank with a regular dividend policy, distributing a minimum of 35% of its net income. Over the past four years, the average payout ratio was above 50%, and the dividend yield was 4%-5% annually.

According to the analysts, FIBI has historically provided the best returns in the Israeli banking sector, backed by the highest capital ratios.

In the analysts' opinion, FIBI is the least risky bank here and

well positioned to compete and continue to grow, since virtually all its government-owned competitors are headed for privatization and restructuring, which will change their ownership structure in the next few years.

FIBI is also unaffected by new regulations which limit holdings in non-financial investments.

Salomon Bros. attributed FIBI's success to both its management team, which successfully avoided all recent major crises in the banking system and to its owners, the Safra banking group, which assists in developing its business.

German unemployment jumps in February

NUREMBERG (Reuter) - German unemployment jumped in February to a new post-war record of 3.965 million, the Federal Labor Office said yesterday.

That was up from 3.858 million in January, which was the sixth consecutive monthly rise. The January was itself a record.

The Bundesbank said the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose to 10.3 percent in February from 10.1%.

Economics Minister Guenter Rexrodt said the high level of unemployment was an unbearable burden, but that the economy was not headed into a recession.

Growth forces would regain the upper hand in the course of the year, easing labor market tensions, though that alone would not be enough to improve the fundamental labor market situation, he said.

Federal Labor Office president Bernhard Jagoda said abnormally

cold weather was largely to blame for the sharp rise of 107,000 in the adjusted total, hitting especially hard in the construction industry, already weakened by sluggish orders.

"The extremely cold and long winter has - alongside a consistently weak economy - had a major impact," he told reporters.

The weak German jobs market fueled gains in the dollar and in German marks, on expectations the news would lead to lower German interest rates.

Economist Joachim Fels at Goldman Sachs in Frankfurt said Germany was now paying the

price for the high wage rises agreed last spring.

"Things are becoming progressively worse. This raises pressure on the Bundesbank to cut interest rates," Fels said.

The central bank would not want to be seen to be reacting to labor market figures but it would have to do something and hope it leads to a lower mark, he said.

Rexrodt said reasonable wage demands and lower taxes and withholdings were needed to make German labor more attractive.

He said he expected seasonal factors to improve labor market conditions in coming months.

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Eilat Port

Tender No. 8/Nun Alef 96 With Negotiations

- The Ports and Railways Authority (Eilat Port) (hereinafter P.R.A.) invites bids, with negotiations, for the ready right to plan, construct and operate a guest facility - Beit Hanamian - which will consist of guest accommodations, public areas and service areas for visitors.
- The terms of the tender can be obtained by fax, free of charge, by sending a fax to Eilat at 07-358301, and if there is no reply, by calling Tel. 07-358302.
- The documents and other information can be obtained by applying to the above fax number, from March 12, 1996, 7 a.m.-2 p.m. The applicant will provide full personal details and a payment of NIS 2,000 (two thousand) plus VAT (non-refundable).
- Those wishing to participate in the tender must submit their bids in writing, together with all required documents, in a sealed envelope, to be deposited in the tenders box at the Eilat Port Secretariat, Eilat Port Authority Building, Eilat, not later than May 14, 1996 at 1 p.m.
- The successful bidder shall carry out, at his own expense and on his own responsibility, all inspections and clarifications, from the legal, physical, engineering and planning standpoints, and similarly, obtain all the necessary authorizations required by law for the construction of Beit Hanamian, including agreements and/or any other permit required by the Israel Lands Administration and/or any other authority, all without having recourse to the P.R.A.
- The validity of the contract with the successful bidder will be dependent on his receiving all the authorizations required by law, including a government permit in accordance with the Ports and Railways Authority Law 1961, authorizations and/or agreements from the Israel Lands Administration, all as specified in the tender documents.
- The P.R.A. does not undertake to accept the highest and/or any other offer.

Date: 4.3.96
Purchase Price: 149.68
Redemption Price: 147.39

ISRAEL DISCOUNT BANK

PRIME מל"מ
Mutual Fund for Foreign Residents

Date: 4.3.96
Purchase Price: 109.14
Redemption Price: 107.67

Captain Rami Blase
Manager, Eilat Port

Reading between the lines... you have time for trading action until 11 PM.

ISRAEL DISCOUNT BANK

ISRAELI PIA

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

Patash (foreign currency deposit rates) (4.3.96)

Currency (deposit term)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar (\$50,000)	4.375	4.375	4.375
Pound sterling (£100,000)	4.250	4.250	4.250
German mark (DM 200,000)	1.875	1.875	2.125
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	0.250	0.250	0.250
Yen (10 million yen)	—	—	—

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (6.3.96)

CHECKS AND TRANSFERS	Buy	Sell	BANKNOTES	Buy	Sell	Rep. Rate
U.S. dollar	3.4743	3.5304	—	—	—	3.5011
German mark	3.0797	3.1294	3.02	3.18	—	3.1000
French franc	2.0940	2.1177	2.04	2.15	—	2.1081
Japanese yen (100)	4.7118	4.7703	4.83	4.88	—	4.7415
Dutch guilder	0.6988	0.6187	0.68	0.68	—	0.6187
Swiss franc	2.8242	2.8714	2.87	3.02	—	2.9496
Spanish peseta (100)	1.8817	1.8918	1.82	1.82	—	1.8200
Italian lira (1000)	2.6804	2.8017	2.51	2.64	—	2.5888
Belgian franc (10)	0.4811	0.4884	0.44	0.47	—	0.4574
Norwegian krona	0.4788	0.4888	0.47	0.50	—	0.4833
Denmark krona	0.6589	0.6483	0.63	0.68	—	0.6481
Finnish mark	0.6710	0.6819	0.65	0.70	—	0.6809
Canadian dollar	2.8448	2.8912	2.20	2.82	—	2.2617
Australian dollar	2.9476	2.9854	2.30	2.42	—	2.3537
S. African rand	0.7548	0.8078	0.72	0.81	—	0.7948
Portuguese escudo (100)	1.0140	1.0304	0.99	1.05	—	1.0241
Austrian schilling (10)	2.8834	3.0112	2.51	3.05	—	2.9847
Israeli shekel (1000)	1.8848	2.0187	1.85	2.05	—	1.8820
Jordanian dinar	—	—	4.23	4.33	—	4.3400
Egyptian pound	—	—	0.87	0.95	—	0.8333
Irish punt	3.6704	3.8388	3.62	3.88	—	3.8825
Spanish peseta (100)	4.8337	4.8178	4.78	4.89	—	4.8317
—	2.4841	2.5041	2.42	2.54	—	2.4825

* These rates vary according to bank. ** Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

מכאן הכל

Shares drop on poor Agan earnings

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET

ROBERT DANIEL



Two-Sided Index

Maof Index

SHARES dropped about one percent as investors focused on lower earnings from a prominent chemical company, Agan.

They also matched the fall in shares of Teva and Koor Tuesday in New York.

At the same time, "the market is surprising everyone" with a drop of 1%, said Doron Tsur, head of research at Sahar Securities.

"Everyone expected quite a different day because of the mood" after the recent wave of terrorism, including Moody's suicide bombing at Dizengoff Center.

Analysts said investors aren't deterred much by the attacks. Rather, they look to corporate earnings and other economic benchmarks as guides in investments.

Agos sank 7.25%. Maof Index-listed Teva was the most active stock, down 3.25% to NIS 6.5 million in shares traded.

The Maof Index dropped 0.9% to 216.47, and the Two-Sided Index lost 1.27% to 206.68. Some NIS 94m. worth of shares traded the TASE.

"Agan's fourth-quarter operating earnings fell 69% to NIS 3.7m. from NIS 11.8m., with net income unchanged from a year earlier at NIS 12m. Sales slipped 3.7% to NIS 131.9m.

Disappointing results push FTSE lower

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

LONDON (Reuters) - Blue chip share prices closed easier, weighed by easier FTSE futures and some disappointment on a set of corporate results.

The FTSE 100 closed 18.2 points off at 3,758.9. Shares slipped, unable to sustain early gains after domestic debt markets pared their gains in the wake of jobless figures.

The DAX Index, which had pushed as high as 2,486.02 points in pre-bourse IBIS computer trade on the back of a record close on Wall Street, eoded the bourse session down 12.99 points at 2,466.04.

The IBIS DAX ended trading at 2,471.38. PARIS - Shares ended slightly higher after a directionless session that saw the CAC-40 Index trade in a narrow 14-point range.

Dealers said the stock and bond markets were both lackluster, despite growing expectations of French and German interest-rate cuts today fueled by weak job data in Germany.

The CAC-40 Index closed up 3.95, or 0.20 percent, at 2,005.89. ZURICH - Shares rebounded from a slump to break through the psychologically important level of 3,400 points on the blue-chip SMI Index in late trading.

SYDNEY - The share market ended weaker, with the gold sector slipping again and pre-election optimism a rapidly fading memory. The All Ordinaries Index closed 6.9 points lower at 2,301.1.

Dow drops as investors eye today's jobless data

WALL STREET REPORT

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Blue-chip stocks closed lower yesterday on profit-taking fanned by speculation that today's weekly US jobless claims will show that fewer people filed for unemployment benefits.

Based on early and unofficial data, the Dow Jones industrial average lost 12.65 points at 5,629.77, retreating from the previous session's record high close of 5,642.42.

In the broader market, declining issues led advances by a small margin on active volume of 431 million shares on the New York Stock Exchange.

CURRENCY CROSS-RATES

Table with columns: MARK, STERLING, YEN, SFR, FFf. Rows include STERLING, YEN, SFR, FFf.

TEL AVIV STOCKS

Multi-sided trading

Table of stock prices and changes for Multi-sided trading, including Commercial, Industrial, and Mortgage Banks & Finance.

Two-sided trading

Table of stock prices and changes for Two-sided trading, including AFTERNOON and MORNING sessions.

Table of stock prices and changes for Financial Institutions and Insurance.

Table of stock prices and changes for Trade & Services.

Table of stock prices and changes for Property, Building & Agriculture.

Table of stock prices and changes for Oil Exploration.

Table of stock prices and changes for PARALLEL LIST Trade & Services.

Table of stock prices and changes for Industrials.

Table of stock prices and changes for Industrials (continued).

Table of stock prices and changes for Industrials (continued).

Table of stock prices and changes for Industrials (continued).

Table of stock prices and changes for Industrials (continued).

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Table of stock prices and changes for Industrials (continued).

Table of stock prices and changes for Industrials (continued).

Table of stock prices and changes for Industrials (continued).

Key Representative Rates

Table of exchange rates: US dollar, Sterling, Mark.

New York market indexes

Table of New York market indexes: DJ Industrials, DJ Transp., etc.

Other stock market indexes

Table of other stock market indexes: FTSE 100, Nikkei, etc.

Israeli stocks in NY

Table of Israeli stocks in NY: NYSE/AMEX, Tel Aviv, etc.

INTL. MONEY MARKETS

Dollar crosses (US)

Table of dollar crosses: Pound, DM, etc.

Labor rates

Table of labor rates: 3 months, 6 months, etc.

Foreign financial data courtesy of CommStock Trading Ltd.

Futures, Options, Stocks, Bonds and Mutual Funds

Table of foreign financial data: Gold, Silver, etc.

US commodities

Table of US commodities: Cocoa, Wheat, etc.

London commodities

Table of London commodities: Cocoa, Wheat, etc.

Spot market metals (US)

Table of spot market metals: Gold, Silver, etc.

New York metal futures

Table of New York metal futures: Gold, Silver, etc.

Commstock Trading Ltd. (Dole 6-849-66)

ISRAEL DISCOUNT BANK logo and text.

INTERNATIONAL STOCK PRICES

Large table of international stock prices from various countries.

Sri Lanka sets mark in win

KANDY, Sri Lanka (Reuters) - Sri Lanka scored the highest total in one-day international cricket on its way to victory over Kenya by 144 runs in the World Cup group A match yesterday.

Sri Lanka, put in to bat, piled up 398 for five in its 50 overs and Kenya, shock winners over West Indies last week, replied with a spirited 254 for seven, Steve Tikolo hitting 96.

The Sri Lankan total beat the previous limited overs international best of 363 for seven in 55 overs by England against Pakistan at Nottingham in 1992. It also surpassed the previous World Cup record of 360 for four set by West Indies against Sri Lanka in Karachi in 1987.

Aravinda de Silva led the run spree, striking five sixes and 14 fours in a scintillating 145 off 115 balls to become the first Sri Lankan to score a World Cup century.

His innings was the highest by a Sri Lankan in one-day internationals, beating team mate Sanath Jayasuriya's 140 against South Africa in Bloemfontein in 1994-95.

De Silva, playing his 177th game, became the first Sri Lankan to score 5,000 runs in one-day internationals.

Sri Lanka had already ensured a place in the quarter-finals in which they play England in Faisalabad, Pakistan, on Saturday.

India-Zimbabwe
Vinod Kambli, taking over when for once the batting brilliance of Sachin Tendulkar failed, hit a highly responsible 106 to set India up for victory over Zimbabwe.

His century enabled India to reach 247 for five in its 50 overs and although they began promisingly, Zimbabwe lost wickets cheaply in the middle order and were all out for 207 to give India a 40-run win.

Kambli and recalled opener Navjot Sidhu staged a great recovery after India had been reduced to 32 for three, having been put in to bat. They shared a fourth-wicket partnership of 142 with Sidhu making 80.

Both were caught in the deep as they pushed the run rate up towards the end of the innings.

Kambli was twice let off the hook who fairly simple chances in the deep were put down midway through his innings and Zimbabwe were made to pay dearly for it.

Ajay Jadeja blasted a rapid 44 from 27 balls, including two sixes and three



OUCH - New Zealand's Stephen Fleming winces as he gets hit by the ball after mistiming a sweep shot on his way to a 42 against Pakistan yesterday.

four, towards the end and then took two wickets with his medium pace bowling. He was afterwards declared man of the match.

Pakistan-New Zealand
Champions Pakistan cruised to a 46-run win against New Zealand but captain Wasim Akram is an injury worry ahead of Saturday's quarter-final against arch rivals India.

Akram, who made an unbeaten 28 in Pakistan's total of 281 for five, strained a side muscle while attempting a sharp single.

"The doctor has checked me and has advised rest," said Akram, who did not bowl in the New Zealand innings.

He said his appearance in the quarter-final depended on medical clearance.

Pakistan's win against New Zealand put them in second place to group B, setting up a clash against India in the last eight in the southern Indian city of Bangalore.

Group A	GP	W	L	Pts	NRR
Sri Lanka	3	3	0	10	+1.63
Australia	3	1	1	6	+0.88
India	3	2	1	6	+0.46
West Indies	4	2	2	4	-0.12
Zimbabwe	5	1	4	2	-0.93
Kenya	5	1	4	2	-1.03

Group B	GP	W	L	Pts	NRR
South Africa	3	3	0	10	+2.05
Pakistan	3	2	1	6	+1.34
New Zealand	5	3	2	6	+0.60
England	5	2	3	4	+0.07
UAE	5	1	4	2	-1.82
Netherlands	5	0	5	0	-1.95

Note: Sri Lanka's record includes a total of 463 awarded after Australia and West Indies forfeited their matches on February 17 and February 25 respectively.

Cricket World Cup quarter-finals

Matches and venues

March 9 - Sri Lanka v England, Faisalabad, Pakistan

March 9 - India v Pakistan, Bangalore, India (d/n)

March 11 - South Africa v West Indies, Karachi, Pakistan

March 11 - New Zealand v Australia, Madras, India (d/n) (d/n denotes day-night match)

ASA tourney continues

THE 11th International ASA (Academic Sports Association) Boardsailing Championship continued yesterday in Eilat despite powerful winds.

This year's event, overshadowed by the terror outrages, has been held in a "grim and bear it" atmosphere, a far cry from the series held twelve months ago, which lauded the peace between Israel and Jordan and included festive celebrations in both Eilat and Akaba.

Despite the troubles, the tournament organizers report that there have been no drop-outs from among the foreign participants, and over 180 competitors from 19 countries have fighting for the honors along Eilat's coastline. As in previous years Eilat's facilities and climate continue to attract racers keen to make an early start in the sport's annual calendar.

The current Championship boasts a budget of over NIS 40,000, that includes a cash injection of over NIS 95,000 from

the Eilat Municipality, and significant sponsorship from the Israeli hotel chain.

With the Olympic Games looming ahead, local enthusiasts had been looking forward to seeing Israel's big two, Amit Inbar and his young competitor Gal Friedman act out a dress rehearsal of next month's crucial showdown in Haifa that will determine which one of them takes Israel's single windsurfing ticket to the Atlanta Games. Inbar however dashed those expectations by deciding to continue his training preparations up north, while Friedman remained committed to defend the ASA crown he has won twice times in succession.

Following the tournament's opening on Monday, calm seas and a listless wind hampered racing on Tuesday. There was a complete turnaround in conditions yesterday which were more suited to fast racing with winds up to 25 knots that

caused light damage to some of the equipment and prevented completion of the day's program.

20-year-old Friedman was feeling poorly yesterday and pulled out of the last race in the Mistral class. In the first two of three Mistral races held yesterday Friedman finished in second and fourth place respectively. He currently lies ninth overall in the standings, and remains the leading Israeli representative in the competition.

Other Israelis who have performed well include Israel Herzog who holds second place amongst his fellow-nationals and tenth overall, and Shai Teram, a high-school student from Ra'anana who is 11th in the general standings.

Frenchman Claude Maslek is the current Championship leader in the Mistral, and showing ace form to snatch first place in all four races held so far. In the women's event Australian Natasha Stargess leads the pack. The program continues today.

Bold Bulls batter Bucks

CHICAGO (AP) - Michael Jordan racked up 21 points in the first quarter, finishing with 33, and Luc Longley blocked a career-high seven shots on Tuesday night, as the Chicago Bulls beat the Milwaukee Bucks 115-106.

The Bulls are 29-0 at the United Center and have won 36 straight regular-season games at home, dating back to last season.

Longley also had 14 points and seven rebounds for Chicago, now 53-6. Glenn Robinson led the

Bucks with 22 points and Vin Baker added 21.

Dennis Rodman was ejected with 6-42 remaining in the third quarter after he was called for a flagrant foul against Milwaukee's Sherman Douglas. Both he and Bulls coach Phil Jackson complained vigorously.

Clippers 105, Knicks 88
The Clippers started their five-game road trip with a rare win over New York, using an 18-2 run early in the fourth quarter.

The Clippers beat the Knicks for the first time in more than three years and for only the third time in their last 20 meetings. It was the sixth loss in the last seven games for the Knicks, who were outscored 33-20 in the fourth quarter.

Brian Williams led Los Angeles with 21 points. Hubert Davis paced New York with 25 points and Patrick Ewing had 24.

SuperSonics 107, Cavaliers 101
Visiting Seattle stretched its team-record winning streak in 14 games as

Detlef Schrempf scored 14 points in the two extra periods.

Cleveland seemed to have the game in hand when Dan Majerle sank a 3-pointer for a 94-92 lead with 1.4 seconds left in the first overtime.

But after a Seattle timeout, Cleveland's Chris Mills was whistled for a foul as he reached around Schrempf to knock away the inbound pass from halfcourt. With the crowd of 17,260 screaming at him and the officials, Schrempf made both foul shots with eight-tenths of a second left, forcing a second OT.

TUESDAY'S RESULTS:

Detroit 105, Toronto 84
L.A. Clippers 105, New York 88
Miami 113, Minnesota 72
Seattle 107, Cleveland 101 (2OT)
Orlando 123, Charlotte 97
Chicago 115, Milwaukee 106
Dallas 127, New Jersey 117
Phoenix 106, Indiana 95
Houston 100, Portland 93
Golden State 110, Vancouver 78
Utah 112, Sacramento 97

Richardson to retire after World Cup

WEST INDIES captain Richie Richardson announced on Tuesday he would retire from international cricket at the end of World Cup, the Caribbean News Agency (CANA) reported.

The news of his decision to quit came in a fax sent by Richardson to the agency from Jaipur in India.

"I had made up my mind at the end of the U.K. tour last summer that I would retire at the end of the World Cup. I informed the West Indies Cricket Board of Control several days ago," Richardson said.

West Indies have performed poorly recently and suffered a humiliating defeat by Kenya in the World Cup last week.

"They made some amends on Monday when they beat the fancied Australians in Jaipur, with Richardson scoring 93 not out and winning the man-of-the-match award.

The 34-year-old Richardson, who took over as West Indies captain in 1991, played his first international in India in 1983.

Fed Cup event to proceed

DESPITE the recent terrorist atrocities, the Federation Cup Euro-African Qualifying II event to be held in Ramat Hasharon from March 25-31 will go ahead as planned.

Chairman of the Israel Tennis Association, David Harnik, announced the decision yesterday after holding discussions with the International Tennis Federation concerning the tournament preparations. Harnik outlined the measures being taken including heightened security for the players.

The ITF, after conferring with the British Foreign Office, recommended that the tournament be held, and not postponed or moved to another venue.

A similar decision was reached following discussions between Yair Engel, Director-General of the ITA, with official sources in Israel.

Teams from the following countries will be competing: Ukraine, Ireland, Armenia, Estonia, Botswana, Benin, Denmark, Zimbabwe, Tunisia, Morocco, Lithuania, Lichtenstein, San Marino, Poland, Finland, Kenya, Cyprus, Turkey, Ethiopia and Israel.

Israel will be represented by Anna Smastnova (83 in the world), Hila Rosen (370), Natalie Bahana (609) and Tzippi Ohziler.

New format for Big East tournament

NEW YORK (AP) - The expansion of the Big East to 13 schools meant a lot of changes, especially in the league's postseason tournament.

The first change was obvious - today's quintuple-header that got post-season play started for all in the conference but the top three seeds.

"The second was 'as plain as a full marjule outside Madison Square Garden' but any team that didn't get a bye has to win four games in as many days to take home the championship trophy.

"It will be real hard to win four games. It really takes it toll," Boston College coach Jim O'Brien said. "That's why, I think, in addition to the three teams that have byes being the three best teams, they have a tremendous advantage in playing three games to win it all, while the others have to win four games."

The top three seeds - No. 4 Connecticut, No. 6 Georgetown and No. 9 Villanova - received byes into today's quarterfinals.

Late last night's schedule had No. 12 Syracuse vs. Notre Dame; Boston College vs. Pittsburgh; Providence vs. St. John's; Miami vs. Rutgers; and West Virginia vs. Seton Hall.

Syracuse (22-7) is clearly the best of the teams that have to win four games.

Milan blanks Bordeaux

LONDON (Reuters) - AC Milan, attempting to become only the fourth club to win all three European cup competitions, took a huge stride towards the next stage of the UEFA Cup on Tuesday with a 2-0 quarter-final first leg win over Bordeaux.

A goal from Stefano Eranio after 29 minutes and a second from Roberto Baggio 15 minutes from time, left the Italian league leaders well poised to reach the semifinals next month.

In the 41-year history of European club competition only Ajax, Juventus and Barcelona have won all three tournaments.

However, Barcelona's chances of winning this competition for the first time since 1966 - when it was still known as the Inter-Cities Fairs Cup - dimmed after they were held to a 2-2 draw at home by Dutch League leaders PSV Eindhoven in one of two ties between former European champions.

The other tie between former European champions ended in a 2-1 home win for Bayern Munich over Nottingham Forest.

Juergen Klinsmann, currently England's Player of the Year following his outstanding form last season for Tottenham, sent England's last European survivors on their way to defeat with a 16th-minute header.

Forest, returning for the first time to the Olympic Stadium where they won the 1979 European Cup final, were level two minutes later with a header at the other end from Steve Chettle, his first goal of the season.

But Mehmet Scholl, who had an outstanding game, scored Bayern's second just before half-time to give the Germans a slender advantage for the second leg.

Slavia Prague scored a 2-0 win over a Roma side reduced to 10 men for the last nine minutes. Their goals came from Karel Poborsky (11th minute) and Robert Vagner (51st).

SOCCER BRIEFS

National under-18s reach European finals
Israel's youth (under-18) soccer team reached the European Championship finals yesterday after managing a 1-1 draw with Italy in Ashdod. Israel thus repeated the result achieved in Italy in the first leg.

This is the third time Israel has reached the final stages of the competition, repeating the feats achieved in 1988 and 1992. The finals are to be played in Austria next month.

Arsenal beats Manchester City
Arsenal sent Manchester City crashing to a 3-1 defeat in an English Premier League match at Highbury on Tuesday.

John Hartson put Arsenal on the way to victory with the first of his two goals - a superbly-taken 25-meter dipping shot in the 29th minute. Defender Lee Dixon added a second four minutes before the break.

NATIONAL BASKETBALL LEAGUE - Hapoel Jerusalem 87, Maccabi Ramat Gan 83.

NEL - TUESDAY'S RESULTS: Pittsburgh 9, Winnipeg 4; N.Y. Islanders 5, Boston 3; Tampa Bay 2, Chicago 0; St. Louis 2, Florida 0; San Jose 5, Colorado 3; Dallas 3, Anaheim 1.

Richardson to retire after World Cup

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West Indies have performed poorly recently and suffered a humiliating defeat by Kenya in the World Cup last week.

"They made some amends on Monday when they beat the fancied Australians in Jaipur, with Richardson scoring 93 not out and winning the man-of-the-match award.

The 34-year-old Richardson, who took over as West Indies captain in 1991, played his first international in India in 1983.

India	Wickets	Runs	Sri Lanka	Wickets	Runs
S.Tendulkar c Sreak	3	3	S.Jayasuriya c Tille b E.Oduಂಬೆ	44	33
N.Sidhu c Sreak b P.Srang	80	2	R.U.Kambli b E.Oduಂಬೆ	33	33
M.Srinivasan c Campbell b Lock	2	2	A.Gunaratne c Cheneay b Karim	145	145
M.Ashwin c Campbell b B.Srang	106	44	A.Silva c Mad b Sij	75	75
V.Katkar c G.Flower b Lock	44	6	A.Ranasinghe not out	0	0
A.Jadeja not out	26	16	H.Tilakaratne run out	0	0
N.Monga not out	16	16	R.Malinasana not out	0	0
Extras (b-3 nb-6 w-5)	247	17	Extras (b-1 nb-6 w-1)	17	17
Total (five wickets - 50 overs)	247	388	Total (five wickets - 50 overs)	388	388
Did not bat: A.Kumble, J.Srinath, V.Prasad, V.Rajiv			Did not bat: K.Dhamasena, C.Vaas, M.Muralitharan, R.Papahangelama		
Fall of wickets: 1-6 2-5 3-32 4-47 5-219			Bowling: AS 0-0-74 (1w), SJ 0-0-35-1, CR 0-0-31-0 (2w), E.Oduಂಬೆ 0-0-34-2 (4w), Karim 10-0-0-1, T.Tille 2-0-13-0, M.Oduಂಬೆ 0-0-7-0 (1w), S.Tilak 5-0-38-0		

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MONDAY, WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY (package) - NIS 234.00 for 10 words (minimum), each additional word - NIS 23.40
WEEK RATE (6 insertions) - NIS 315.90 for 10 words (minimum), each additional word - NIS 31.59
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DWELLINGS
Tel Aviv

RENTALS
InterIsrael
FOR RENT in "Sea Tower" On Promenade, 1-2 bedrooms, completely furnished, for one week/month/year

SALES
JAFFA, FOR SALE/RENT, magnificent Arab style house with view of sea & Old city, 400 meters built, KAV HAYAM Tel. 02-523-8988.

FOR SERIOUS: NORTH, new, 5, 150 sq.m., architectural design, immediate. 03-993472.

4, LUXURIOUS, + expensive contents, elevator + parking, 1st floor, (municipality) "Gish" 03-544431.

EXCLUSIVE! OPERA TOWER 2 high, breathtaking view of sea, \$415,000. KAV-HAYAM. Tel. 03-523-9988.

EXCLUSIVE! QUIET NORTH of Tel Aviv! Penthouse, 200 sq.m. on level + 46 sq.m. on roof + su pool unit + pool. \$1,650,000. KAV-HAYAM. Tel. 03-523-9988.

EXCLUSIVE! ZAHALAI 1,000 sq.m. plot/160 sq.m. built, \$1,200,000. KAV-HAYAM. Tel. 03-523-9988.

KIKAR-MEDINA, 4 + terrace / Ramat Aviv Gemel, 4+, very high standard. Yael REALTOR (Madison) Tel. 03-942-8293.

DWELLINGS
Sharon Area

RENTALS
FOR RENT! HERZLIYA Pituah! Gafel Tchelet! New villa, 500sq.m. plot, 350sq.m. built + pool. KAV-HAYAM. Tel. 03-523-9988.

HERZLIYA, PITUAH, CHARMING HOUSE, 3.5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, very quiet area, garden, \$2,200. Itam Real Estate, 03-989911.

HERZLIYA PITUAH FOR RENT AND SALE. Exclusive houses in prime locations. Moran Real Estate (Madison), 03-572799.

DWELLINGS
Haifa and North

SALES
CAESAREA, LUXURIOUS HOUSE, view towards sea, swimming pool, central air conditioning and vacuum cleaning. Tel. 050-251715, 03-562261.

Drive Carefully

IMMEDIATE! \$700 + ROOM AND BOARD for NICE, experienced metropol in Tel Aviv. Tel. 03-524-2025.

IMMEDIATE JOBS AVAILABLE, kindred terms, best conditions, the agency with a heart for the Au Pairs. Call Hirma Tel. 03-9699977.

SAVVON, LIVE-IN, EXPERIENCED housekeeper + cooking, non smoker, excellent conditions, references. Tel. 03-554-1038.

AMERICAN FAMILY seeks South African au pair, live-in, central Tel Aviv. \$750 + NIS 200 immediate bonus. Tel. 03-6201165, 052-452002-Jackie.

WANTED FILIPINA HOUSEKEEPER for housework + live-in, good conditions. Tel. 050-380-006.

OFFICE STAFF
GREEK AND ENGLISH SPEAKERS wanted! High salary! Call Michael at 03-5782351.

SITUATIONS VACANT
Dan Region

HOUSEHOLD HELP
AUPAIR FOR 3 children + experience+references. Filipina or Thai preferred. Tel. 03-5045665, 050-388924

PURCHASE/SALES
Jerusalem

FOR SALE
SEWING MACHINE in desk; 3 meter solid walnut buffet/bar. Refiner. Chandra-lic. Miscellaneous. Tel. 02-250-782.

VEHICLES
Jerusalem

ARIE PALOGE - QUALITY CARS: buying, selling, leasing, trading. 02-6523735, 050-240377.

EXPERIENCED HOUSEKEEPER, LIVE-IN, GOOD conditions, central Tel. 03-688-9989.

FEEL RELAXED WITH Aromatherapy by professional Perfumologist/Masseur. Tel. 052-211-854 (Armi).

HEALTH
FOR HEALTHY BODY & a happy mind, have a professional massage or Shiatsu. Tel. 03-5602329.

SITUATIONS VACANT
Jerusalem

SALES PERSONNEL
WANTED: MARKETING/SALES PEOPLE for exclusive product, salary + commission. (02) 852-1111 Michal.

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Tel Aviv

HOUSEHOLD HELP
FORGET THE REST! We are the best! The biggest and oldest agency in Israel. For the highest quality live-in jobs phone Au Pair International. 03-8190423.

AU PAIR FOR wonderful girl, live in, good conditions. 03-5105740, 050-516954.

CLASSICAL MUSIC

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TELEVISION

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WHAT'S ON

CRITIC'S CHOICE

CLASSICAL MUSIC

MICHAEL AZENSTADT

NIKOLAI Demidenko gives a Chopin and Schumann piano recital tomorrow (2) at the Mann Auditorium in Tel Aviv. Tonight, Saturday and Sunday (8:30) he plays Chopin's Second Piano Concerto at the venue under the baton of Theodor Guschlbauer. The program also includes Saint-Saens's Third Symphony and Rachel Galinne's Cycles (tonight and Sunday) and Dukas's The Sorcerer's Apprentice, experts from Bizet's L'Arlesienne and overtures by Berlioz and Rossini (Saturday).

Yevgeny Shapovalov sings Neapolitan songs with the Ra'anana Symphonette Orchestra under Yehoram Scharovsky. Saturday, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and the following Saturday in Ra'anana (9) in a program which also features music by Schubert, Debussy and Kabalevsky.

Emanuel Krasovsky presents a piano recital with music by Mozart, Beethoven and Schubert tomorrow (noon) at the Targ Centre in Ein Kerem, Jerusalem. Cellist Gabi Lipkind, winner of this year's Francois Shapira Competition for Young Musicians, performs a recital Saturday (8:30) at the Tel Aviv Museum.

American pianist Victor Polonsky performs music by Bach, Beethoven, Brahms, Tchaikovsky, Borodin and Rachmaninov, Saturday (8:30) in Ashdod's Wizo Center.

OPERA

HELEN KAYE

OPERA fans can catch the Bucharest Light Opera in the full stage production of Victoria and Her Lover featuring some of Romania's best known singers, including tenor Dorin Teodorescu and soprano Eugenia Ilincă. Tonight in the Kfar Sava Municipal Auditorium, tomorrow at Theater North in Kiryat Haim, and Saturday night at the Noga Theater in Jaffa. All performances at 8.

TELEVISION

RUTH KERN

MARY Tyler Moore has made huge career strides,



Mary, we hardly know you. Way back when it would have been impossible to imagine Mary Tyler Moore in the role of a newspaper editor. She's had a complete ditz-ectomy for 'New York News,' which airs tonight on the Family Channel.

fictionally speaking, since her '70s days as an assistant producer for the news operation at a Twin Cities TV station. Like her one-time boss on The Mary Tyler Moore Show, Ed Asner, who later went on to his own series in which he played the editor-in-chief of the Los Angeles Tribune, Moore has been recast as a newspaper editor. In New York News, she's the tough boss of a tabloid newsroom.

Unfortunately, the producers of this series seem to have spent all their money on acting talent and none on scriptwriters. Moore: Joe Morton, as the city editor; and the redoubtable Madeline Kahn, as a gossip columnist - all three wonderful comic actors - are completely wasted in this cliché-ridden mess. What's worse, they're forced to take a back seat to the distinctly lightweight Gregory Harrison, as a crusading column writer. (Aren't there any plain old reporters at this publication?) It makes one appreciate last year's sharply written and very funny movie The Paper even more.

Still, the show is worth tuning in to once, if only to touch base with an American television icon - despite the fact that Moore's new shag haircut emotes more than she does. And who knows, maybe the series can recover from its disastrous first episode. Find out by tuning in to New York News, tonight at 8:50 on the Family Channel.

TELEVISION

CHANNEL 1

8:30 News in Arabic 6:45 Exercise Hour 7:00 Good Morning Israel

EDUCATIONAL TV

8:00 The Cairo Geniza 8:30 Reading comprehension 8:45 Society 9:25 Young children's programs 10:00 Family relations 10:30 Art 10:30 English 11:15 Literature 11:40 Science 12:10 Math 12:30 Science 12:50 Math in daily life 1:10 Science library 1:30 Stories about animals 1:40 Our friends - new cartoon series 1:45 Kitty Cat and Tommy 1:40 A Thousand and One Americas 1:45 Parade of cartoons 1:50 Auto

CHANNEL 1

15:32 Denver the Last Dinosaur 15:50 In Danny's Room 15:55 Rex 16:30 Dovele 16:58 A New Evening 17:34 Zap - To pop culture 18:15 News in English ARABIC PROGRAMS 18:30 Current Affairs 19:00 News 19:30 Every Evening with Marav Michael 20:00 Mabat News 20:45 Culture magazine - hosted by Yael Dan 21:35 No Way Out (1987) - taut melodramatic thriller about a murderer and a cover-up within the federal government. Stars are Kevin Costner, Gene Hackman and Sean Young (110 mins.) 23:30 News magazine 24:00 Verse of the Day

CHANNEL 2

13:00 From the Concert Hall - IPO conducted by Zubin Mehta plays Verdi's Requiem 13:30 Children's program in Arabic 14:00 The Intrepid - adventure 14:30 Tick Tack 15:00 Lucie Look 15:30 Pop Here and There 16:00 The Bold and the Beautiful 17:00 News magazine with Rafi Reshef 17:30 All Together Now 18:00 Santa Barbara - soap opera 19:00 Baywatch 20:00 News 20:30 The best Israeli commercials 20:50 Candid Camera with Ygal Shilon 21:40 Dan Shilon Live 22:15 Express - music 22:30 Journalism 00:00 News 00:05 Ticket for Two - culture magazine 00:30 A Fatal Invention - BBC mini series based on the book by Ruth Rendell 1:35 Keys to the Kingdom

WHERE TO GO

Notices in this feature are charged at NIS2.00 per line, including VAT. Insertion every day of the month costs NIS22.00 per line, including VAT, per month.

JERUSALEM

Conducted Tours: HEBREW UNIVERSITY. Tours of the Mount Scopus campus, in English, daily Sun.-Thur., 11 a.m. from Bronfman Reception Centre, Sheman Administration Bldg. Tel. 592-2223. For info, call 592-2219. HADASSAH. Visit the Hadassah installations, Chagall Windows. Tel. 02-416333, 02-776271.

TEL AVIV

MUSEUMS: TEL AVIV MUSEUM OF ART. Michz Bar-Gal, 1995. Eight of November - Gilksberg, Gross, Reisman, Shelesnyak, Almog, Berest, Gal, David, Peter Branes - Isaac. Paintings, Prints, Ceramic Sculpture. Prize-winning Art. Fascio Dorchan - Blocked Well. The Museum Collections. HELENA RUBINSTEIN PAVILION FOR CONTEMPORARY ART. A Passion for the New. New Art in Tel Aviv Collections. Hours: Weekdays 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Tue. 10 a.m.-10 p.m., Fri. 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Sat. 10 - 3 p.m. Meyerhoff Art Education Center, Tel. 6919155-6. WIZO. To visit our projects call Tel Aviv 6923919; Jerusalem 256060; Haifa 388817.

HAIFA

WHAT'S ON IN HAIFA, dial 04-374253.

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

EMERGENCY PHARMACIES

Jerusalem: Amnon, 9 Leib Yaffe, 731901; Balsam, Salah a-Din, 272315; Shualat, Shualat Roed, 810108; Dar Aldawa, Herod's Gate, 282058. Tel Aviv: Pharmaxi, 41 Yermolova (next to Pe'er cinema), 544-2050; Kupat Holim Clalit, 7-9 Amsterdam, 522-2353. Tel. midnight: Superpharm Ramat Aviv, 40 Einstein, 641; 3730. Re'anane-Kfar Sava: Kupat Holim Maccabi, 49 Hahayil, Ra'anana, 907736. Netanya: Porat, 76 Pelah Tikva, 340987. Krayot area: Harman, 4 Simlat Modlin, Kiryat Motzkin, 870-7770/3. Haifa: Hanassi, 33 Hanassi, 833-3312. Herzliya: Clal Pharm. Beil Makazim, 8 Maskit (cnr. Sderot Hagalim), Herzliya Pituah, 555472. 55407. Open 9 a.m. to midnight. Upper Nazareth: Clal Pharm. Lev Hapir Mall, 570468. Open 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.

DUTY HOSPITALS

Jerusalem: Shaare Zedek (internal, obstetrics); Hadassah Ein Kerem (surgery, orthopedics, ophthalmology, ENT); Bikur Holim (pediatrics). Tel Aviv: Tel Aviv Medical Center (pediatrics), Ichilov (surgery). Netanya: Laniado.

POLICE

100 FIRE 102 FIRST AID 101

Magen David Adom

In emergencies dial 101 (Hebrew) or 911 (English) in most parts of the country. In areas, around the clock.

Medical help for tourists (in English)

17-022-9110 The National Poison Control Center at Rambam Hospital 04-8529205, for emergency calls 24 hours a day, for information in case of poisoning. Eran - Emotional First Aid, Jerusalem 010300; Tel Aviv 5451111 (children/youth 6921131); Haifa 6912223, BeerSheva 281128, Netanya 625110 Karmel 9928470, Kiryat Sava 7674555, Hadera 348788. Who hotlines for battered women 02-6514111, 03-5461133 (also in Russian), 07-376310, 08-550506 (also in Amharic) Rape Crisis Center (24 hours): Tel Aviv 5234819, 5449191 (mon.), Jerusalem 265556, Haifa 8660111, Eilat 31577. Hadassah Medical Organization - Israel Cancer Association telephone support service 02-247676



CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

ACROSS 1 Way out of a regressive state (6) 4 One produces works that others may play (8) 11 Plant on a yellow cane (9) 11 The up a bundle of straw (5) 12 Droney old convict gets the govt (7) 13 Spotted a plain cake (7) 14 Ravens evidently infiltrated by moles (5) 15 Drum or trumpet perhaps making an electrical connection? (8) 16 Same ship capsizing under stress (8) 20 Fit right into a quarrel (5) 23 Engineer processed steel for the keyboard instrument (7) 25 Everywhere it's done (3,4) 26 Go slow movement? (5) 27 Butterfly operating at random (6-3) 28 Show India etc differently (8) 29 Give evidence a the match (6) DOWN 1 Taking on, that's charming (8) 2 Help one in need - take over his duties (7) 3 The lady shortly will have cod perhaps or oysters possibly (9) 5 Common salt? (8,6) 6 A little French is insignificant (5) 7 Many on course first find a slight trace (7) 8 About eleven players remain (6) 9 Advance account on student's work? (8,6) 16 Miner's lamp on a car? (9) 17 Price Ted arranged when it was dilapidated (8) 19 Pink lady (7) 21 Series of steps got a vet confused (7) 22 The Spanish coil strangely going round has some tinged spots of colour (6) 24 Thus to be embraced by one who is indifferent to pain (5)

Crossword puzzle grid with solutions provided.

Quick crossword puzzle with solutions provided.

CHILDREN (6)

8:30 Cartoons 8:00 Surprise Garden 8:35 Spiderman 9:00 P.O.W. Boys 9:40 Power Rangers 10:10 Harry and the Hendersons 10:30 Purrin on the Children's Channel 10:45 Beverly Hills 00:20 parody 11:10 Xuxu 11:45 Beverly Hills 90210 12:30 Saved by the Bell 13:00 Surprise Garden 13:35 Cartoon 14:00 Professor Iris 14:35 Who Knows? 15:10 The Heart 15:45 Step By Step 16:10 Dad Rules 16:40 Silbers - drama 17:30 Saved by the Bell 18:00 Hugo 18:35 C.O.W. Boys 19:00 Spiderman 19:30 Three's Company 20:00 Married with Children 20:25 Skits By Step 20:50 Mork and Mandy 21:20 Cheers

JORDAN TV

(unconfirmed)

13:00 Fireman Sam

13:00 Fireman Sam 13:10 Disney's Aladdin 13:30 The Legends of Treasure Islands 14:00 Mr. Seatbelt Identity - comedy 14:15 NSA 15:20 The New Leave it to Beaver - comedy 15:40 Adventures of the Old West - documentary 16:30 Gillette World Sport special 17:00 French programs 18:30 News headlines 19:00 Keeping up Appearances - comedy 20:00 Magazine 01 - documentary 20:15 Islam in America - documentary 21:10 Pride and Prejudice 22:00 News in English 22:25 Journal Across the Land of Islam 22:45 Feature film

MIDDLE EAST TV

14:00 The 700 Club 14:55 Queen of the Nile (1982) - The Queen of Egypt defends both her throne and her relationship with a secret love. Starring Jeanne Crain and Vincent Price (85 mins.) 16:30 Day of Miracles 16:58 Mask 17:20 Fables of the Green Forest 17:45 Another Life 18:10 Hawaii Five-O 18:10 Magnum P.I. 20:00 World News Tonight: Arabic 20:30 CNN Headline News 21:00 Evening Show 21:30 The 700 Club 21:50 The 700 Club 22:00 Law and Order 23:10 The 700 Club 24:00 Special Program

FAMILY CHANNEL (3)

8:00 Falcon Crest 9:00 One Life To Live 9:45 Young and the Restless 10:30 Second Time Around 10:55 Not Far From Home 11:25 Celeste 12:10 Neighbors 12:35 Perry Mason 13:30 Starting at 1:30 14:05 The A Team 14:55 Falcon Crest 15:45 Secrets of Suspense 16:30 Neighbors 17:00 Paparazzi 18:00 One Life To Live 18:45 The Young and the Restless 19:30 Local broadcast 20:00 Celeste 20:50 New York News (1995) - Mary Tyler Moore stars in this series set in a New York newspaper 21:40 Red Shoe Diary (1992) - erotic film about a man who discovers his wife's diary after her death and learns about her extracurricular sex life (105 mins.) 23:45 Sisters 00:35 Counter Offense 1:20 Knots Landing 2:10 Woman without a Past - drama 3:00 Dempsey and Makepeace 3:50 Counter Espionage

MOVIE CHANNEL (4)

10:30 Film in Arabic 12:25 The Last Time I Saw Paris (1954) Starring Elizabeth Taylor, Van Johnson, Donna Reed, Eva Gabor and Roger Moore (pt) 14:20 The Unbelievable In the Movies 15:05 Vanished Without a Trace (1992) 16:05 Trois Hommes Couraient (1985) (pt) 16:20 Matiewan (1987) (pt) 20:35 Special interview with Sharon Stone about her new film, Casino 21:00 Boyz n the Hood (1991) - director John Singleton's debut film about a black single parent trying to bring up his son - properly in a gang-ridden South Central L.A. 22:55 France and Country (1988, Britain) - Denzel Washington stars as a paratrooper, victimized by racism in the army (100 mins.) 00:35 Friday The 13th: Part VII - Jason is back in this spine-chilling horror series (84 mins.) 2:00 Novel Desires (1992) - erotic film (87 mins.) 3:25 Dance with a Stranger (1985, Britain) (pt) 0:05 Murder in New Hampshire (1991) (pt)

JERUSALEM CINEMA

THE ADVENTURES OF PRISILLA * Sammy and Rosie Get Lost (1992) 7:30 10 * Seven Jerusalem Mall (Mafna) * 768448 Casino 4:15, 7:30 * Dead Man Walking 4:30, 7:15, 10:15 * Sudden Death/Virtuosity 4:30, 7:15, 9:45 * Girls 9:45 * JERUSALEM THEATER A Man of No Importance 7 * Georgia 9:30 RAV CHEN 1-7 * 517782 2 Yona Hanevi St. Something to Talk About/Hunted Soul/Golden Eye 7:15, 10 * G.G. TEL AVIV 8:5 7:30, 9:45 * Underground 6:30, 9:30 * American President 7:30, 10 * Dead Man Walking 4:30, 7:30, 10:15 RAV-CHEN= 528288 Dizengoff Center Ace Ventura 7:30, 9:45 * 3, 5, 7:30, 9:45 * Sudden Death/Virtuosity 4:30, 7:15, 9:45 * Senta Clause 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 * Waiting to Exhale 7:30, 9:45 * Father of the Bride II 5, 7:30, 9:45 * GAT Nixon 2:30, 6, 9:30 * GORDON Eat, Drink, Man, Woman 5:15, 7:30 * Home for the Holidays 2, 5:30, 10 * Clueless 2, 5, 7:30, 10 * LEV 1-4 = 528288 White Man's Burden 12:15, 2, 8, 9:45 * 2, 7:45 * Farinata 12:30, 9:45 * Denise Clark 7:45, 10 * G.G. 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Elections as scheduled; no unity government

THE elections will not be delayed and a national unity government will in all likelihood not be formed. This emerged from yesterday's session of the Labor ministerial caucus.

All but two ministers spoke against the national unity idea and, while Prime Minister Shimon Peres did not express an opinion, he appeared to be unenthusiastic about it. He did say that he might "from time to time" call in opposition leaders to consult with and inform them about the security situation.

This is in keeping with the "consultative forum" suggestion floated Tuesday by sources close to Peres.

Postponing the elections, by contrast, is seen as very appealing to the Labor ministers but was nevertheless judged as impractical, since after having brought elections forward, the party would find it highly embarrassing.

"It could be construed as being afraid of the voters," Tourism Minister Uzi Baram said, and Justice Minister David Liba'i argued that "having advanced the elections because of good polls, we cannot put them off because of bad polls. We cannot go back and forth."

While Peres did not directly express an opinion about the pro-

SARAH HONIG

posals to set up an emergency national unity cabinet to combat terrorism, he gave every possible signal that he does not favor it. He said he would do nothing which could be interpreted as an admission of failure, that he will let nothing interfere with the continuation of his peace policies, and that he will not give up his own personal responsibility for national security.

According to several of those who took part in the deliberations, the most Peres would agree to, and even that under the greatest of duress, would be to allow some Likud figures into the government as ministers-without-portfolio and without any powers. This would be on condition that the Oslo process continues. These conditions, it was agreed in both Labor and the Likud, effectively puts the lid on any national unity talk because even the most vocal proponents of the notion - like the Likud's Ariel Sharon and Geshar's David Levy - have hinged their proposals on the suspension of Oslo.

Moreover, it is realized on all sides of the political divide that a national unity government would be inimical to Likud chairman Binyamin Netanyahu's interest and

that Meretz is hotly opposed to any association with the opposition.

The ministers were nearly unanimous in the feeling that a national unity government would work to Labor's disadvantage.

Minister Yossi Beilin argued that such an "emergency cabinet could serve those in the Likud who want a purge." Internal Security Minister Moshe Sbahal maintained that the "national unity government would become a government of national paralysis."

However, Interior Minister Haim Ramon argued that Labor would be wrong not to allow two or three opposition members into the cabinet, as that would give "a psychological uplift to the public, from which Labor could reap benefits." Trade and Industry Minister Micha Harish also warned against slamming the door on national unity.

Harish and Religious Affairs Minister Shimon Sheiret came under fire from Peres, who he took them to task for talking to reporters after the Monday night emergency cabinet meeting. "It was a war cabinet," Peres contended, "and no one should go out and leak who said what to whom."

Harish countered that he was only trying to defend Peres.



Jerusalem bus bombing victim Dana Shimsbon receives a Purim gift from children injured in the Afula bombing at Hadassah-University Hospital yesterday. (Yitzhak Elhanan)

Security services get Purim goodies

ALTHOUGH there was not much of a Purim atmosphere in the country this week, the Tel Aviv Hilton decided to show its appreciation to police and security forces who are on double alert in and around the city.

GREER FAY CASHMAN

eral manager, contacted Tel Aviv District police chief Gaby Last and offered to provide Hamantaschen to all the security personnel in the region. Two hours later, a police van stopped at

the hotel, collected a thousand filled pastry triangles and distributed them all over the city.

Throughout the country yesterday, the public heaped Purim goodies on the army and police personnel guarding bus stops and checkpoints.

Parole board refuses to reduce Klingberg's sentence

The Prisons Service parole board decided yesterday against reducing by one third the 20-year sentence of spy Marcus Klingberg, 78, for good behavior. However, the committee said they would reconsider in a year.

Klingberg asked for the reduction after the Supreme Court rejected his appeal for early release on grounds of deteriorating health. Klingberg was sentenced in 1983. (Tim)

Upper Nazareth man killed in crash

Awani Lidawi, 36, of Upper Nazareth, was killed Tuesday night in a collision with a truck at the Kfar Yezbekel junction in the Jezreel Valley. For unknown reasons, Lidawi's car swerved into the oncoming truck, police said, while he was on his way from Afula to Beit She'an. He was killed instantly. (Tim)

WEATHER

Forecast: Stormy weather. Winds, thunderstorms and hail. Possibility of floods in the lower areas.

AROUND THE WORLD

	LOW	HIGH	
Amsterdam	01	34	05 41 cloudy
Berlin	01	32	04 39 cloudy
Cairo	11	52	20 89 rain
Chicago	08	27	01 34 snow
Copenhagen	06	21	01 34 cloudy
Frankfurt	02	36	05 41 cloudy
Geneva	09	27	05 41 p/cloudy
London	06	41	08 48 cloudy
Los Angeles	11	52	19 89 clear
Montreal	10	14	03 27 p/cloudy
New York	08	48	16 61 rain
Paris	01	34	07 45 cloudy

Winning cards

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the ace of spades, ace of hearts, king of diamonds, and queen of clubs.

Flatow family encourages bombing victims

Stephen Flatow, the father of Alicia Flatow, whose organs were donated to save Israelis after she died in the Kfar Darom terror bombing last year, yesterday sent a letter to Dr. Dan Oppenheim, director-general of the Rabin Medical Center/Beilinson Campus, saying that "the terrorist attacks of the past few weeks have greatly affected our family and many others in

the US. I think the greatest fear that anyone can have is the feeling that they are alone."

Flatow asked Oppenheim to tell the victims of the attacks that "they are not alone in their pain, that we in America are thinking of them, and that they are in our prayers for a complete and speedy recovery."

Judy Siegel

Now that Purim is over, it's time to get ready for PASSOVER

HAGGADOT תשנ"ו

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THE TEMPLE HAGGADAH
Israel Ariel
Through unique illustrations, this Haggadah conveys the experience of celebration of Passover in the Holy Temple as it was in the past - the sacrifice, the priests executing their tasks, the Levites choir, the feast and prayers of thanks.
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A superb colorful edition - illuminated manuscript and illustrations by Arthur Szyk, faceted with English translation. Special gift for a special occasion.
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THE SECRETS OF THE HAGGADAH: A COMMENTARY ON THE PASSOVER HAGGADAH
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A FEAST OF HISTORY
The Drama of Passover
Through the Ages with a new translation of the Haggadah for use at the Seder
Chaim Raphael
The historical and pictorial unfolding of the Passover story - old prints, archeological artifacts, nostalgic and contemporary photographs in full color beautifully designed Haggadah.
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A FAMILY HAGGADAH

A FAMILY HAGGADAH
- by Shoshana Siberman, illustrated by Katherine Janus Kahrt. A softcover Haggadah in Hebrew and English, with a right blend of text, commentary, tradition and innovation to enrich your seder. 64 pp.
JP Price NIS 19

PREPARE THE SEDER MEAL

THE PASSOVER GOURMET

THE PASSOVER GOURMET
Nira Rousso. Hard to believe that the 188 pages of recipes and enticing full color photos are all kosher for Passover! Recipes from many different cuisines.
JP Price NIS 78

FOR CHILDREN

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THE DOODLED FAMILY HAGGADAH!
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UHI OHI PASSOVER HAGGADAH illustrated by Janet Zwebner
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01/96/050/0	Antennas Waveguide and Accessories	16.4.96 at 6 p.m.	No charge	02-595616 429
17/96/050/0	Fusion Splicing Equipment for Fibre Optic Cables	16.4.96 at 6 p.m.	No charge	02-595616 429

The following general conditions apply:

- Pre-conditions:
 - Parties submitting bids must comply with all laws, including the requirement to keep account books, be an authorized trader, hold valid licenses to trade, and comply with all relevant standard specifications.
 - Guarantee to fulfill the requirements, as defined in the tender documents.
- The tender documents can be obtained from the Tenders and Ordering Department of the Purchasing Division, 15 Rehov Hazvi, Jerusalem (Room 609) Tel. 02-595614/3, between 9 a.m. and 12 noon, Sunday to Thursday.
The tender documents will be provided on submitting a receipt of payment for the above sum.
* In Israel, payment should be made into Bezeq's Postal Bank account no. 5-311757.
* Overseas suppliers should make payment into Bezeq's account no. 12-901-97633/64, at the Jerusalem main branch of Bank Leumi LeIsrael.
The fee for the tender documents is non-refundable.
The receipt, with details of your company, and authorized trader's number may be faxed to 972-2-378113. Please phone afterwards (phone numbers as above), to obtain confirmation of receipt of the fax.
- Bids should be placed in the tenders box at 15 Rehov Hazvi, Jerusalem, not later than 6 p.m.
- No undertaking is given to accept the lowest or any bid, or to order the entire work from one source.

Bids sent by fax or telegram will not be considered.

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